by, seventy-four marriages having taken place since February 1, the majority being those who had lived for years in Indian custom. Cases of separation between husband and wife are extremely rare. The amount contributed for missionary work among this people for the year was $1,750, forwarded by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

INDUSTRY AND CIVILIZATION.

They have built during the year, by their own efforts, with a cost to the government of about $70, seven frame houses, furnishing all materials themselves except nails, window-sash and doors. Many more living at present in lodges would build houses were there a mill here to saw timber. They are very anxious that such should be rebuilt, and in the interest of civilization I hope the department will adopt such a course. They have no way to get wheat ground to flour short of the Kamiah mill, 65 miles away. They also have cut and rafted down the river 650 cords of wood, for which they have received on the average $4 per cord, making some $2,600 received this year. They also have fenced in many fields this year, one man inclosing 60 acres with a good six-rail fence. They have made during the year 2,096 rods of good rail fence.

I have induced many to cut their hair, and the effort has been taken up by the chief and head men and is resulting in great improvements to their looks.

During the week in which the 4th of July occurred, about 800 assembled in camp at Kamiah, and feasting and festivity was the order of the day. During all the time the most perfect order was kept. On the morning of the 4th, as the processions formed to march from the camp to the grove where the exercises were held, those wearing blankets and holding to Indian customs attempted to join in such party, but were at once ordered out by the chief and elders; as they expressed it, "No *Indians* were allowed." It shows they are most thoroughly impressed with the idea that they have to adopt the white man's way.

I can do nothing, except in talk, to make them discard their blankets, as the government furnishes nothing for substitution, their annuities being nearly all in farming utensils. Many would willingly change had they the opportunity.

There has been but little drunkenness during my administration. Those who have been guilty were confined in the guard house, Fort Lapwai, for one month hard labor. I take one horse to pay for board while so confined, the sale of which is sufficient punishment for all they fail to receive while confined. The squaws who "err" are confined at the agency lock-up, making them work during the day at whatever is needed. My efforts in finding the source from which liquor is procured have been unavailing.

AGENCY BUILDINGS.

The freshet of the Lapwai in February last carried off the saw and flour mill, undermined the carpenter and blacksmith shops, and tore the grounds up badly. I have removed the shops to higher ground, out of danger, at a trifling expense to the government, picked up the rubbish on the grounds, and whitened all the agency buildings with lime. It has been of practical benefit to the Indians, as several after harvest will whiten their houses.

SANITARY CONDITION.

The sanitary condition of the Indians has been exceedingly good. Very little sickness and few deaths have occurred. Rheumatism and ague are the principal troubles. Inherited scrofula is prevalent to some extent.

In conclusion will say, on the whole the condition of the Nez Percés is all one could ask. They have improved and are doing so still. Some uneasiness was manifest about stories set afloat by renegade whites, in relation to their treatment at the expiration of their treaty next July, but I have talked the matter over and they will wait patiently to see the action on the part of the government. They are well civilized, but one mistake on the part of the government at this time would destroy the effects of the past thirty years' teachings; but to give them time and attention, they will astonish their most zealous friends in their progress toward civilization.

I remain, very truly, yours,

CHAS. D. WARNER,
*United States Indian Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO AGENCY, INDIAN TER.,
*August* 31, 1879.

SIR: In compliance with department instructions, I have the honor to submit the following as my eighth annual report of the condition of the service at this agency for the year ending August 31, 1879.

STATISTICS.

The following table will show the number of Indians attached to this agency:

| Name of tribe. | No. of men. | No. of women | No. of boys. | No. of girls. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheyennes | 891 | 1,121 | 758 | 814 | 3,584 |
| Arapahoes | 545 | 504 | 402 | 451 | 1,902 |
| Cheyennes at Hampton school | 7 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 7 |
| Arapahoes at Hampton school | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Cheyennes at Syracuse | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| Total belonging to agency | 1,446 | 1,625 | 1,160 | 1,265 | 5,496 |

About the 1st of December last a small party of Cheyennes were permitted to leave the agency in search of buffalo, by authority from your office. The hunt was quite unsuccessful, and the only point gained was a small saving of rations during their absence. On leaving the agency, four weeks' rations was issued to the party, which, together with the few buffalo and small game they secured, bridged them over until their return to the agency. It is quite evident now that neither the government nor the Indians can place any reliance upon the supply of buffalo in the future to supplement rations, and ample provision must be made for their subsistence for 365 days, and can only be supplemented by their own efforts in industrial pursuits, which will be mentioned in this report under its proper heading.

NORTHERN CHEYENNES.

Of the 937 Northern Cheyennes who arrived at this agency in the summer of 1877, about 300 persons, consisting of 89 men, the remainder women and children, under the leadership of Dull Knife, Little Wolf, Wild Hog, and Old Crow, escaped from the agency on the night of September 9th, 1878, and endeavored to return to their old homes in the north. The history of their march north, their conflict with United States troops, &c., has been pretty thoroughly presented by pen and press, and it would be needless for me to cumber this report with the whole history. I will, however, cite a few points bearing upon their dissatisfaction. They claimed that many promises were made by military officers to be fulfilled on their arrival at this agency; that the country was unhealthy and medicine scarce, and rations insufficient. I have never been informed just what was promised them by Army officers, nor to what extent they were authorized to make promises. That the ordeal of acclimation for a northern Indian to this climate is severe there can be no question, as has been abundantly verified in the transfer of other tribes to this country; and such a policy is wrong and should be abandoned.

As to supplie sof medicines, there was a scarcity, and many persons suffered and died for lack of proper remedies. The annual estimate for medicines was forwarded from this office about the 12th of May, 1878, and the supplies embraced in said estimate were received at the agency January 17th, 1879. The attention of the Indian Office was frequently called to the matter by letter and telegram, urging the necessity of prompt action.

As to rations, the precise rations specified in their treaty were not all furnished, and consequently could not be issued, but at no time during their stay at this agency were they deprived of regular prescribed rations of beef; and in the absence of flour and other substantial food rations, the quantity of the beef ration has been increased, so that there could be no real suffering, and the comparative satisfaction and content of over 4,000 other Indians at this agency, who have fared no better, will fully warrant this statement. While the government has been doing so much for these people, I am fully aware that we have had and still have enemies to the department who have intensified the discontent of the Northern Cheyennes by assuring them that they were not receiving their just dues, and to the extent of their influence such persons are responsible for the evils that have come out of the Dull Knife raid.

On the 9th of December, 1878, Little Chief, with his band of about 200 Northern Cheyennes (men, women, and children), reached this agency, and so great was their prejudice against the country and agency that it was extremely difficult to get a hearing with them, and, with the exception of Crazy Mule and Ridge Bear and their followers, the party under Little Chief still cling to the hope that they will be permitted to return north.

The discontent of Little Chief's band became so apparent during early spring as to threaten another Dull Knife affair, unless something could be done to satisfy them of the good intentions of the government, and upon representation from this office, and through the War Department, authority was granted to take a delegation of Little Chief and five of his followers to Washington, for the purpose of conferring with the authorities in relation to their desire to return north, and such other grievances as they might wish to present. This delegation proceeded to Washington during the month of May, in company with Ben. Clarke, as interpreter, and myself. They had several conferences with the honorable the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and called on the President; and after deliberation the honorable Secretary decided that they must remain at this agency. The decision was not received at first very satisfactorily, but they subsequently expressed themselves as determined to abide by the decision and make the best of it, although they would still have a decided preference to return north. I am satisfied that the visit of this delegation resulted in good, as the fact was forcibly fixed in their minds that the support given to schools by Southern Cheyennes and other industrial work, had the full sanction and backing of those holding high official positions, and that the vast numbers of whites seen, and the labor of their hands, has convinced them of the power of the government, &c.

It was promised Little Chief, while in Washington, that the balance of Northern Cheyennes remaining north should be sent south, and it is due that this promise should be carried out at the proper time, or that he should be permitted to return north himself. Divided as they are, there will be always an excuse for passing back and forth, and so long as one Northern Cheyenne is permitted to remain north, there will be discontent among those here, and, as a result, an obstruction to their progress here.

### INDIAN FARMING.

During the early spring there were rains sufficient to enable the Indians to plow their old ground and plant it in good condition, and this condition of affairs continued until early vegetables had so far matured as to yield some benefit for their labor; but about the time to commence breaking new ground, dry weather set in, which continued during the balance of the season, rendering it impossible to break prairie land, and also very seriously interfered with the growth and maturity of the corn and other crops. As a result, we can only report a small yield of corn, and other crops in proportion; and in some instances the Indians are discouraged at having lost their summer's work, and are anxious to get wagons to transport supplies, which they do not regard as so hazardous.

I believe that statistics will bear me out in the statement that on an average every fourth year will prove a failure in crops in this country, and cannot be relied upon exclusively for agriculture. I would therefore advise the opening up of small farms to localize their efforts, and then devote more time and means to the acquirement of cattle herds; it is naturally a good grazing country, and cattle reared on this range do not require the preparation of forage or grain for winter use.

| | |
|---|---|
| Acres ground cultivated | 1,064 |
| Acres prairie broken by Indians | 67 |
| Bushels corn raised (estimate) | 11,494 |
| Bushels potatoes raised (estimate) | 1,015 |

Inclosed see report of farming; J. A. Covington head farmer.

### INDIAN POLICE.

Under instructions, the number of the police force has been increased to 40 persons, who have been carefully selected with a view to efficiency and fair distribution by tribes and bands, including three or four Northern Cheyennes. During the year they have recovered many stolen animals, have made some important arrests, and have served their part well in settling differences and difficulties between individuals and clans in their tribes. There has been a decided improvement in their promptness to report, when called upon, for duty during the past year, and I have reason to believe that with experience they will be fully as reliable for the duties required of them as we could expect from so many whites. Since this force has been increased they feel more disposed to execute orders, and are better able to carry them out.

### INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

This school has been conducted the past year until June 30, 1879, under the management of John H. Seger as school contractor, whose aim has been to give them a practical education in letters as well as in all the different industries in which it has been

practicable to have them engaged and which would assist them in future life in acquiring a livelihood in this country.

Two of the girls, one a Cheyenne and one an Arapaho, who have been trained in this school, have been assigned to positions as assistant teachers in the school during the last half of the year, for which service they have been compensated by the contractor; others, both boys and girls, have progressed to a point in which they are able to utilize their knowledge of letters and business training in keeping accounts, reading orders, &c.

The cattle herd belonging to this school, property of individual children and children in common, has constantly increased in growth, numbers, and value, and with no drawbacks will soon acquire such proportion as will excel our most sanguine expectations. We already feel highly gratified with the success of the enterprise, and well paid for the efforts put forth in our labors to encourage the children to labor to save something and then to convert that something into an investment which seemed to promise the greatest income. Our commercial "text" has been "yearling heifers," and by closely adhering to this text there has been realized the greatest possible percentage of growth and increase.

STATISTICS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| On hand last report, 359 head | | $3,332 00 |
| On hand present report, 573 head | | 6,021 40 |
| Which shows an increase of 214 head | | 2,689 40 |
| Derived as follows, viz: | | |
| By increase in value by growth | $700 00 | |
| By increase, 130 calves | 520 00 | |
| By donation, 12 head, Romeo, to daughter in school | 120 00 | |
| By donation, 7 head blooded bulls, A. E. Reynolds | 350 00 | |
| By purchase, 100 head, school children (earnings) | 999 40 | |
| | | $2,689 40 |

RECAPITULATION.

| | |
|---|---|
| Present value of 573 head of cattle | $6,021 40 |
| Present value of 400 head bought by government | 3,160 00 |
| Total value of 973 head | 9,181 40 |

In addition to the above herd, there has been purchased by the department 400 yearling heifers and delivered to the school herd at a cost of $3,160, or $7.90 per head; and my aim would be to let the children of the schools assist in caring for these cattle, and at such time as they are permitted to withdraw from the schools and are capable of caring for the cattle, to take with them their proper proportion of the stock with the increase as a "beginning" in life. In this way an inducement can be held out to place children in school and also to encourage the child while in school. The best argument that we can now present to these Indians in favor of schools is the success that has attended our efforts in securing for their children something that can be seen with their eyes and appropriated to their support. The next generation may appreciate more fully mental culture, religious training, and moral culture.

During the summer that has just passed, contract was entered into with Smith and Ashton, of Lawrence, Kansas, for the construction of another industrial school building for the accommodation of 150 more children, which was completed on the 26th instant, and is now ready for occupancy, at a cost to the government of $8,070, besides cost of transportation of material for same. There can now be accommodated about 350 children in the two boarding schools.

SUPPLIES.

The quality of subsistence and annuity supplies the past year was good. Some articles of subsistence were short in quantity, but were supplemented by extra issues of beef, which was always issued full. In annuity goods and clothing there was not sufficient to furnish each Indian (5,300) with a warm suit of clothing, as promised by treaty. This is, undoubtedly, owing to insufficiency of funds applicable for clothing. At the time the treaty was made with Cheyennes and Arapahoes it was estimated that they did not number so many people as the Kiowas and Comanches, and the treaty provides $14,500 for Cheyennes and Arapahoes and $15,000 for Kiowas and Comanches, while the Cheyennes and Arapahoes (exclusive of Northern Cheyennes) number 4,200, while the Kiowas and

Comanches number 3,000. The same disparagement occurs in beneficial funds; Kiowas and Comanches get $30,000, or $1 per head, while the Cheyennes and Arapahoes get $20,000, or 50 cents per head.

### TRANSPORTATION.

Fifty-five new wagons have been added to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Transportation Company, and the hauling of supplies has progressed favorably since July 1. Prior to that time it was difficult to secure freight for the Indians, as contractors for the transportation of supplies were loth to give it to Indians, while they claimed the right to ship by whom they pleased. Since July 1 we are happy to note the fact that no contract for wagon transportation was let by the honorable Commissioner, thus leaving the Indians an open field to transport their own supplies.

The owners of wagons that have already been paid for by transporting supplies are now receiving cash for their service at the rate of $1.50 per 100 pounds per 165 miles, furnishing their own teams, &c. The new wagons are being paid for at the rate of $1.75 per 100 pounds per 165 miles, and one more trip will wipe out the cost of wagon, $52; harness, $19.50; freight, &c.

### FREIGHT.

Total amount transported by the Indians during the year, 451,000 pounds.

### INDUSTRIAL WORK.

During the year our efforts have been directed to the securing of all the work that could be done by Indians, and is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Making 90,000 brick, at $7 per thousand | $630 00 |
| Chopping wood, 1,263 cords, at $1.25 per cord | 1,578 75 |
| Making hay, 550 tons, at $4.25 per ton | 2,337 50 |
| Hauling wood, 800 cords, at $2.50 per cord | 2,000 00 |
| Splitting and hauling rails, posts, &c., estimated | 575 00 |
| Total earnings | 7 121 25 |

### CARRYING UNITED STATES MAIL.

Mr. J. H. Seger has taken a contract for carrying a daily United States mail from Darlington, Cheyenne, and Arapaho Agency to Fort Elliott, Texas, a distance of 165 miles, which is operated nearly exclusively by full-blood Indians belonging to this agency, thus affording active employment at remunerative wages for some twenty-five families, and tending to assist the great aim of making these Indians self-supporting in the future, and for the present affording no small help to make government rations cover the allotted space of time. It affords me great pleasure to record the fact that up to date there has been no report of breach of trust on the part of any Indians or Indian connected with this very responsible service, and the contractor expresses his entire approval of their conduct.

### SANITARY.

The present year, since the beginning of cold weather last fall, has been characterized by a fair degree of health. Medical stores for the current fiscal year are now *en route* to the agency from Wichita, Kans. These supplies should be delivered at the agency promptly in July of each year, in order to meet the usual demands for antimalarial remedies during the months of July, August, and September.

### RESERVATION.

By reference to official correspondence upon this subject the fact is brought out that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes are judged as having no legal rights to any lands, having forfeited their treaty reservation by a failure to settle thereon, and their present reservation has not as yet been confirmed by an act of Congress. Inasmuch as the Indians fully understood and were assured that this reservation was given to them *in lieu* of their treaty reservation, and have commenced farming in the belief that there was no uncertainty about the matter, it is but common justice that definite action be had at an early day securing to them what is their right. This secured land could be assigned to them in severalty and individual efforts encouraged and protected.

EMPLOYÉS.

With the addition of some Indian help, added to the regular list of employés, we have been able to transact the regular routine business of the agency and make some valuable and necessary improvements; and to the success that has attended our efforts in this direction I feel indebted to faithful, experienced men and women, who have the good of the Indian and their advancement at heart. No greater mistake could be made than to dispense with such employés for those with no experience at reduced pay.

RELIGIOUS INTERESTS.

Regular Sabbath service has been held for the instruction of the school children and also a camp class of adult Indians, in which they have been instructed in Bible truths, the necessity of a change of heart and living a holy life, and on each Sabbath evening there has been preaching either by Alfred Brown, the school superintendent, or Elkannah and Irene Beard, who have been occasional visitors at this agency.

ACCOMPANYING REPORTS.

I transmit herewith statistical report of J. A. Covington, head farmer, and report of J. H. Seger, school contractor.

CONCLUSION.

Gratefully acknowledging the support of the department in all rightful means to benefit the Indians, and its forbearance with our shortcomings, and with a keen sense of duty to Him who has watched over us and all the interests here connected one year more,

I am, very respectfully,

JNO. D. MILES,
*United States Indian Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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KIOWA, COMANCHE, AND WICHITA AGENCY,
*Anadarko, Ind. Ter., August* 30, 1879.

SIR: In compliance with department instructions, I respectfully submit the following as my second annual report of the condition of the agency under my charge, being for the year ending 31st August, 1879.

Since my last report the field of my duties has been very considerably enlarged by the consolidation in the month of September, 1878, of the Kiowa and Comanche and the Wichita Agencies, to be known as the Kiowa, Comanche and Wichita Agency. As instructed, I relieved Mr. A. C. Williams, agent at the Wichita Agency, on the 1st of September, 1878. By this act there have been placed under my charge besides the *Kiowa*, *Comanche*, and *Apache* tribes, over whom I was originally placed, the *Wichitas*, *Wacoes*, *Towaconies*, *Kechies*, *Caddoes*, *Delawares*, and *Comanches*, the affiliated bands of the Wichita reservation.

The following table will show the number of Indians attached to the consolidated agency:

| | |
|---|---|
| Kiowas | 1,138 |
| Comanches | 1,393 |
| Apaches | 315 |
| Wichitas | 209 |
| Wacoes | 49 |
| Towaconies | 155 |
| Kechies | 75 |
| Caddoes | 543 |
| Delawares | 81 |
| Comanches (of Wichita) | 159 |
| Total | 4,117 |

I have the care of nine different tribes of Indians, with their several languages, peculiar characteristics, and occupying various positions on the road to civilization.

As to language, it is a fortunate circumstance that all these tribes speak the Comanche dialect, which is, as it were, the "court language" among them. Were it otherwise, several different interpreters would be required.

It is well known, doubtless, being a matter of history, that the Kiowa and Comanche Indians occupy their present reservation by virtue of a treaty entered into between the United States Government and themselves, at Medicine Lodge, Kansas, October 21, 1867, and that by supplemental treaty of the year following the Apaches were made a party to the same agreement. At the time of this treaty these Indians were wild and untamed, having previously lived on the plains apart from civilization and at enmity with the whites. Several years transpired before all the parties to the treaty settled down on the reservation and presented themselves regularly at the agency to receive the annuities and other benefits stipulated in the treaty. Since that time, with the exception of about eight months in 1874, during the troubles which commenced on the Washita River at the Wichita Agency, they have been at peace with the whites. My information as to this "outbreak," as it has been called, is that comparatively few were actually in arms against the government; that the larger portion having taken flight at the little fight between the soldiers and Indians at Wichita Agency, moved hurriedly out to the plains and remained there, more through fear than with any intention or wish to become hostile. They have gradually advanced in the way to civilization from year to year. Of their progress during the past year I shall speak further on.

The land upon which the Wichitas and affiliated bands are living has never been assigned to them by any special act of the government, or, rather, the treaty remains unratified; and this fact has been, and still is, a matter with which they are much concerned, and to which I believe the attention of the department has been called from time to time by former agents.

These tribes are all well advanced on the way to civilization and are very nearly able to support themselves without any assistance from the government. It is a fact worthy of notice that some who have been the longest learning the arts of civilized life are at this time making the least improvement and exerting themselves the least to provide a subsistence. Such is the case with the Caddoes, including the Delawares and Ionies. My impression is that they were *many years* ago living in houses, cultivating crops of corn and vegetables, and entirely sustaining themselves by their own efforts. It is said they were nearer self-sustaining then than they are to-day, and it seems that since they were moved on to this reservation, instead of advancing they have been retrograding. I see no way to account for this fact except that their immediate wants having been supplied by the government, and being impressed with the belief that this would be continued indefinitely, there has been a want of incentive to exertion. That the matter of ceasing to issue them rations has been several times talked of, and no action taken, it may be reasonable to assign this as one of the causes. That their opportunities have been favorable to become thoroughly self-supporting is, I think, evidenced by the fact that some few of their number, within the same time and enjoying the same facilities, have, with no unusual exertions or special adaptability, not only reached a condition of self-support but indeed of wealth. As instances, Black Beaver, a Delaware, has 300 acres of land inclosed and fully cultivated, and is possessed of considerable stock, hogs, cattle, and horses. George Washington, a Caddo, has 100 acres of land in cultivation, in several fields, and much stock. Williams, a white man, and son-in-law of George Washington, has cultivated lands, and has collected within a comparatively few years 1,800 head of cattle. Notwithstanding this independent condition these men draw rations from the United States Government every week. As the Caddoes and Delawares have been fed and instructed by the government for more than twenty years and are now fully competent to support themselves if they try, I think the time has come to make some change in their case, and will so recommend, at an early day.

The Wichitas, Wacoes, and Towaconies speak the same language and are really families of the same tribe. They are progressing very decidedly in learning the arts of civilization.

CONSOLIDATION.

Instructions were received at the time of consolidation to remove the agency office from Fort Sill to Wichita Agency, and to prepare to remove as early as practicable all the supplies to that place, it having been determined to abandon the buildings at Fort Sill. The office was removed immediately, but as there was no building at Wichita suitable to hold the stores of commissary and annuity goods, it was determined to continue the work pertaining to the Kiowas and Comanches at Fort Sill until such time as suitable buildings could be constructed upon the Washita River. This I was enabled to do by dividing the agency force, leaving at Fort Sill several employés, under the control of the clerk, Mr. John R. Richards, who during my absence has conducted the affairs of the agency at that point to my entire satisfaction. While this division of force and continuance of work at Fort Sill has been somewhat inconvenient, and has prevented my giving my immediate personal attention to the whole work of the agency, I cannot see that the service has materially suffered by it. With the exception of a few Indians who have been employed, the work has been done by one set of employés and the legal limit for the pay of employés has not been exceeded.

In compliance with instructions I advertised for bids for the building of two schoolhouses and a warehouse upon the Washita River, according to the plans and specifications presented; but as all these bids were above the sums appropriated for each, none were accepted. It having been determined several months since to construct these buildings with skilled labor hired for the purpose, and under the superintendence of Mr. Bowden, the agency carpenter, who is a very competent man, work was at once commenced upon the school-house for the children of the Wichitas and affiliated bands, which in a few weeks will be completed. This house is being erected very near to one that was built for employés, containing eight rooms, in order that it may be used for school purposes. The two buildings will accommodate about 150 scholars.

The saw-mill is running constantly, sawing timber for a warehouse and a schoolhouse for the Kiowa and Comanche children, and it is intended that work shall commence upon them so soon as the Wichita school-house is completed. Logs have been cut some miles up the Washita River, and it was intended to float them down to the mill during a rise in the water, but unfortunately there has been none, and this will necessitate the drawing them some miles with oxen, which is a tedious undertaking.

As in any event it will be some months before the warehouse and necessary buildings can be completed, temporary arrangements will be made for the storing of commissaries, that all Indians of the consolidated agency may receive their rations at this place.

When the consolidation was first announced the Wichitas and affiliated bands made some complaints, but when in a council held with them I disabused their minds of an erroneous impression they had received, and stated correctly the effect of the change, all opposition ceased. The Kiowas and Comanches have not made any special objections—indeed many have been heard to express themselves as favoring it, and if they are not influenced by designing whites, who wish to make trouble, I believe nearly all will acquiesce in the change. It is natural that a few who have houses and farms opened should prefer to remain where they are, but I think those who have not will willingly remove up and settle near the Washita.

### BUFFALO-HUNTS.

The Indians did not start on their winter hunt as early as usual. Much opposition was made to the organization of the police force, and some, especially the Comanches, were not willing to put their children into the school. I refused to issue to them their annuities or give them passes to go on the hunt until a sufficient number of young men were furnished for the police and the school-house was filled to its capacity. It was not long after my determination was announced to them that both requests had been complied with, and they were on the road to the hunting grounds. Finding but few buffalo, and the weather being extremely cold, they were soon in a suffering condition. When I learned of this, I sent out Mr. Clark, the interpreter, with some supplies for their relief, and with instructions to bring them in as soon as it was possible for them to move. The ground being covered with snow, so that their ponies, already poor, could not graze, some time elapsed before they reached the agency. They, of course, brought in very few robes or very little meat.

While out on this hunt a very unfortunate occurrence took place. Captain Nolan commanding the company of troops who were escorting the Indians, while on the hunt, had, in view of the scarcity of buffalo, allowed parties, each accompanied by a squad of soldiers, to go off from the main camp to points where it was said straggling droves of buffalo could be found. While a Kiowa man was one day a short distance from the camp of one of these parties, and alone, he was run on to by a company of Texas State troops, shot down, killed, and scalped. A few moments after this grand military feat was performed, the little Indian camp was discovered and they were just in the act of covering themselves with additional glory by charging it and butchering the squaws and pappooses when the squad of colored troops presented themselves mounted on the bare backs of their horses, having had no time to saddle them, and the warlike band disappeared.

Upon the return of the Indians to the agency, a request was made that the Texans who murdered the Kiowa should be arrested and punished by the authorities, expressing at the time no intention of avenging his death themselves. It seems that after waiting some time, and concluding that nothing could or would be done by the authorities, a party of young Kiowas, headed by the brother of the murdered Kiowa, quietly left their different camps, dashed hurriedly across the line into Texas, killed and scalped a white man they met in the road, and returned as secretly to their camps, apparently feeling that they had avenged the death of their brother and friend by this taking of one scalp. Information of this raid having been brought to the agency by a young Kiowa, formerly a pupil in the school, a company of troops was started in pursuit, but so expeditiously and secretly had been the movement that no trace was found of the party. Indeed, we have not had since any evidence of the absence of any member of the bands at that time, or that the man was killed by the Indians of this reservation.

is known that about this time the man, Earle, was killed by a party of Indians. I am satisfied that could the party who shot the Kiowa have been punished by the proper authorities, or, according to their barbarous custom, had some ponies or other property been presented to the family of the dead Kiowa, the party would not have entered Texas on their deadly mission.

In the month of June last, a portion of each band was permitted to go to the western part of the reservation to subsist themselves awhile on buffalo, deer, &c.; as the supplies for the year had been so nearly expended, it was not seen how they could all be fed until those for the next year were received. But again they failed to find game sufficient to feed themselves, and the Kiowas, who while out were engaged in their annual medicine dance, suffered some with hunger. I think their failures in finding buffalo the past year and their consequent suffering while out will have a good effect in causing them to abandon their idea of subsisting in this way, and to look to their crops and stock for a support. It is a fact worthy of note that the reports of the agents show that the value of the robes and furs sold by the Indians now belonging to the Kiowa, Comanche and Wichita Agency for the year 1876, amounted to $70,400; for 1877, $64,500; for 1878, $26,375; while in 1879 only $5,068 was received, showing that buffalo-hunting is not a thing of profit as it once was; and besides, the most serious drawback to the Indians is the lack of the buffalo-meat which, at one time, helped to subsist them, and which, added to the insufficient rations furnished by the government, kept them partly comfortable. As that supply is cut off, the Indian must go to work and help himself or remain hungry on the rations furnished.

CONDITION AND PROGRESS.

During last fall there were rumors that a portion of the Quahada Comanches were talking of leaving the reservation, and in consequence a company of infantry soldiers were placed in camp on the west of their encampment and a company of cavalry were kept moving on a line north and south still farther to the west, that they might be watched and intercepted should the attempt be made. After remaining in these positions for about one month, and nothing having been seen to indicate that there was any truth in the rumors, and there being, too, a call for the troops in consequence of the Cheyenne raid through Kansas and Nebraska, these companies were recalled. But on the 9th of May 35 Quahadas—men and women—left their camp and succeeded in getting away—traveling, it is said, 75 miles before dismounting. Before leaving, they killed some cattle belonging to their friends and took with them some ponies belonging to the Kiowas. The company sent in pursuit failed to overtake them. A party of Comanches asked permissi n some weeks after they left to go out to their camp and attempt to bring them back. They failed, but lately White Eagle, a Quahada chief, with party, having again visited them, brought back three men, five women, and three children. He reports that fifteen of the runaways were at the Fort Stanton Reservation, with the Apaches, and some others were this side. With the exception of these Quahadas, the Indians under my charge have remained quietly on the reservation, and have been entirely peaceable.

I believe the Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches have become well impressed with the necessity of their preparing to subsist themselves, and with the fact that the government will not feed them very much longer. As stated above, their signal failure to find buffalo the past season has had certainly much to do toward directing their attention to the only other means possible of obtaining a subsistence—the cultivation of the soil and the growing of herds of cattle. It is evident, also, that their fondness for their old savage customs and repugnance to those of civilized life are diminishing year by year; and thus will necessity and habit, with the proper teaching, bring them, before many years, to the much wished for condition, that of self support. During the past year, some who heretofore had shown no disposition to cultivate a crop have taken possession of one of the patches upon which the sod had been turned and commenced preparations for planting, by fencing, &c.

There is a general desire for houses, but as yet they have shown little disposition to do the work required of them in their construction. They seem to think they should be built for them, as but little or no Indian labor had been called for upon those that had been previously built. At my request, $200 was allowed me to erect some houses for the returned Florida prisoners, and I contracted for five at $30 each and turned the remaining $50 into the Treasury. These are the only houses that have been built for the Indians, as I have insisted that they should depend upon their own exertions. They usually give one or two ponies to a white man to build them a good house.

All wish to own cattle. I find it difficult to prevent them from killing their own cattle, whenever the issue of rations from any cause should become short. The order to the traders prohibiting them from buying any hide that is not branded "I. D." fails to stop it effectually. They bring in their hides asking permission to sell, making various statements as to the cause of the death of the animal—sometimes it had died a natural

death, or at others because of a broken leg it became necessary to kill it. One fellow, not understanding correctly the order, had some brand made at the shop, took brand and hide to the store, demanded the $2, telling them they could brand the hide themselves! Another, more intelligent, took in a number of hides that it is supposed he had bought on speculation, upon which "I. D." was branded, but evidently a forgery. He had been taught to read and write while in the Florida prison and had cut the "I. D." in the hair and then seared with an iron. I have frequently endeavored to impress them with the importance of preserving their cattle, especially the breeders, and I believe they appreciate it, but they say they cannot see their children hungry while they have the means of satisfying them.

On the 1st of July last I received, for distribution among the Indians, 474 head of Texas heifers, delivered under a contract let by directions from your office. This I think will prove a wise expenditure of funds upon the part of the government, and could such be made annually for several years, would richly repay. I believe it will have a tendency to make them preserve more carefully their herds, and as in the distribution meritorious young men will receive a share, and thus be started out to build up a herd for themselves, it will tend to sever their connection with the bands, to make them independent, and rely upon themselves for support, and to think of becoming themselves the head of a family, instead of being the blind and idle followers of a chief, who cares nothing for him except that as his name counts for one in numbering his band, it brings him more glory and more beef.

I also received 10 short-horn bulls and 5 short-horn heifers in July to improve the herds. It is purposed to hold the short-horn heifers upon the agency farm and breed up bulls from them for the use of the Indians. Unfortunately they reached the Territory in the midst of the hottest weather ever experienced by the oldest settlers, and some of them have died, but enough will be saved to give a start in breeding.

The demand for wagons has very greatly increased and I regret that I have not been able to distribute more among them. I am satisfied that no article used by civilized man in securing his comforts so attracts the wild Indian as the wagon, and now since these have realized so material a benefit from them by freighting from the railroad the demand for them will be much greater.

The new undertaking, the freighting of supplies from the railroad by the Indians has been thoroughly successful. Soon after the 50 wagons and 100 sets of gear were received, two trains, one from Sill and one from Wichita, were on the road to the railroad. The Indians entered into the thing very eagerly and all who applied could not be supplied with a wagon. Quite a number were permitted to join the trains with their own wagons. The wagon-masters report good order maintained throughout, and the trips have been made in good time and the supplies delivered at the warehouses in good condition. The benefit to the Indians themselves by the move will be greater comparatively than to the government in saving a part of the sum expended yearly for transportation. It certainly opens out to them a way in which they can make something for themselves, and although it is but one step in the desired direction it may lead them to take others.

Since the first trip they have collected and taken down with them to Caddo whatever they could make available in the way of trade, and I have no doubt that in the future it will be an incentive to them to grow vegetables, &c., or to prepare by their own handiwork whatever may be marketable for this purpose, for whether it is so or not they believe they can buy and sell for better prices there than with their own traders.

A number have agreed to cut wood this fall and winter under the present contract for the delivery of wood at the military post, and since their success at freighting it is thought some will undertake to haul and deliver it at the yard, which, if they do, will realize them a nice sum.

The saw-mill is run by Indian labor, with the exception of the sawyer, and all the logs are cut by Indians. During the months of June, July, and August I had cut by Indians alone about 275,000 feet of logs. My force of Indian laborers now consists of about forty men, and represents all the tribes under my charge.

Among the several causes operating to lead the Indian to a sense of his individuality, and to feel that he sustains a personal relation to the United States Government, without any regard to his chief, is the manner of issuing rations adopted during the past year. Although too short a time has elapsed since the change from the old plan of issuing to bands was made, yet there can be no doubt that issuing to heads of families will, in the end, have the very best results. Except in the matter of issuing beef and annuities the band is now scarcely recognized, and there is certainly a decline in the power and influence of the chief. Indeed, he is frequently heard to complain that he has lost his former power over and control of his young men. I hope and believe the *band* will have entirely disappeared in a very few years.

Another very favorable indication is their segregation. During the past year there has been shown a disposition to move off from the main camps and settle down elsewhere—some having already done so. Here will, I think, appear one of the good results of the consolidation.

Much the larger portions of the Kiowa and Comanche tribes who had commenced farming were not advantageously located, as either their selections were bad as regards the character of the soil, as was the case with the Quahadas and Yamperethka Comanches, or their fields were too great a distance from the camps, and otherwise badly located, as was the case with the Kiowas. The fields of the Quahadas are situated about 20 miles west of Fort Sill, the most of them immediately at the foot of the mountains, the soil of very little depth, having been made from the washings from the sides of the mountains, and interspersed all through, just under the surface, with bowlders of rock. The Yamperethkas are about eight miles to the southeast of the former, and with the exception of one man who has a field of his own, all have their patches in one inclosure, the soil in which is very poor. The Kiowa patches are all in one inclosure of 180 acres, situated immediately on the bank of Cache Creek, a few hundred yards below the butcher pen, a few miles below the military post, and 14 from their camp. From some cause they have been unwilling to camp permanently near it, a portion of them only moving in during the cropping season, and as soon as the crop is laid by leaving it, unprotected from any stock that may be inclined to go through the weak fence. A good many Kiowas have already gone north and settled, as also some Comanches, and so soon as the change is made in the place of issuing rations I shall expect many others to follow. They will then be better located in many particulars, but the more desirable result of this change will be the segregation of the tribes into small communities and families.

The Apaches are situated on Cache Creek, equidistant from Sill and Wichita Agency, 20 miles from either, and in one of the finest bodies of land in the Territory. Their removal will not be necessary. To the east of them, and nearer Wichita, are thousands of acres of magnificent lands, sufficient for the settlement of many Indians.

### HORSE-THIEVES.

Horse-thieves still continue their depredations upon the herds of the Indians. Scarce a week passes that there is not a report of the loss of one or more ponies in this way. The location of the Indians with reference to the Texas line as well as the Chickasaw country—in parts of which horse-thieves are hiding—is such that it is almost impossible to prevent this. If ponies be driven from any one of the camps in the early part of the night, they may be readily driven across the line before daylight. My instructions to the Indians have been that they should immediately follow in pursuit of their stock, and not wait for a detail of troops as they have formerly done.

Quinah, a young Comanche, was successful in securing 47 ponies that were driven from his camp a few weeks since, by following this course. In company with two or three of his men he overtook the thieves near the Pan Handle line, recovered all his own stock, and although he failed to catch the thieves he got four of their horses, left behind in the flight.

It is hoped that when the Kiowas and Comanches have moved near to the Washita River, and shall have the military post between them and the Texas line, which will be also a greater distance from their camps, these raids will be less frequent.

The same party that stole Quinah's ponies succeeded in getting away with them the second time a few weeks afterwards, and Black Horse, with one or two followers, started in pursuit and overtook them on Pease River, in Texas, about 150 miles from where they were taken, and captured them. They have not believed before that the duty of recapturing their ponies devolved upon them; and, indeed, they were afraid to attempt it. But now they will eagerly follow up the thieves, and I believe put a stop to the raids to a great extent.

### AGRICULTURE.

The crops in many localities are not good, having suffered for want of rain about th time the corn was filling, and the rains which fell about the time the corn was coming up inundated some fields on the creeks and washed up a portion of the seeds. The rains continued for near two weeks and prevented replanting and killing weeds. This discouraged the Indians, and they reluctantly went to work to repair the damages.

The Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches planted about 860 acres of corn, which will yield 7 bushels to the acre; the Wichitas, 1,675 acres, yielding 7 bushels to the acre. They have also 75 acres in wheat and 30 acres in oats.

There was much demand for garden seeds, and considerable quantities were distributed among them, though in consequence of the drought the yield was small. I was not enabled at the time to detail from my force men to give the Kiowas and Comanches the proper instructions in making their gardens, having previously learned very little. From the instruction received the year previous they were enabled to plant their corn with little assistance.

In this connection I will state it as my opinion that in no part of the service is there

so great a want of employés as for men of the proper qualifications who may be placed with the Indians to instruct them in their farming operations; and it is a matter of regret that the amount allowed for the pay of employés is not sufficient to secure the services of a number requisite for the purpose. One or two farmers at an agency cannot possibly do the work required, as the fields and camps of the Indians are situated many of them miles from the agency and at points far from each other, and covering a large extent of territory. I have found they are much pleased at having them with them, and that they much more readily take hold when they have some one to direct them. The want of these instructors will, in a few years, be in a measure supplied by the industrial schools, as where they have been properly conducted young men will be sent home capable of teaching their people. Until this time it would be well could the number of farmers be increased.

### EDUCATIONAL.

Two industrial boarding-schools have been in operation during the year; one at the old agency, Wichita, for the children of the Wichitas and affiliated bands, the other at Fort Sill for the children of the Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches. Both have been very successful, the houses filled to their capacity.

The Wichita school-house having been burned the year previous, the agent's house and some outbuildings were used for the purpose. In this 106 scholars were registered. The house at Fort Sill formerly used by the agency physician and situated a few yards from the school buildings was this year used for school purposes. One hundred and eighteen children was the largest number registered in this school.

I am satisfied an Indian school should be kept in session the whole of the year in order that the children may be kept away from the savage influences which they encounter when they return to camp during the annual vacation. It is surprising how soon they seem to forget all they have been taught, after they return to camp. The same suggestion has been made by the school superintendents, and I inclose their reports, to which I beg to invite your attention.

I will have for next session a new boarding-school building completed for the Wichitas with a capacity to accommodate about 150 pupils; and I am now preparing to erect a imilar building for the Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches. When these two buildings are filled to their capacity, it will still leave on my hands about 500 children o school-going age who will be compelled to remain at camp for want of school accommodations.

### RELIGIOUS.

No minister of the gospel has been stationed among the Kiowas and Comanches, but they have been several times during the year visited by missionaries. The Rev. Mr. Murron, Major Ingalls, and Mr. Lawrie Tatum have each visited the agency, in the prosecution of their good work. Mr. Holt, a Baptist missionary, who had been for several years stationed among the Wichitas and affiliated bands, was removed during the year, and another Baptist, Rev. John McIntosh, a Creek, has been working faithfully among these Indians since he left, and the results of his labors are very gratifying. Tulsey Micco, a Seminole preacher, has also labored a portion of the year among them.

There is a small church building upon the reservation, and in several of the camps arbors have been erected, and every Sabbath service is held at one of the places, with a very large attendance. There is a church organization which numbers 50 members, and additions are being made nearly every week.

### SANITARY.

The sanitary condition of the Indians during the past year has not been good. There has been an unusual amount of malarial fever. During the autumn of 1878 near fifteen hundred cases were treated of intermittent fever. A dispensary building is much needed. Your attention is invited to the accompanying report of Dr. Irving W. Smith, agency physician.

### POLICE.

My police force has never been brought up to what I desire, as I have not been able to dispense with the services of an employé long enough from other duties to give it the proper instruction, but I find it useful and hope soon to have it more efficient. It cannot be of any great service, however, until arms are furnished.

EMPLOYÉS.

Although my employés are inadequately paid, they have worked faithfully and rendered all the assistance they could.

The accompanying statistics, and the reports of the two school contractors, and report of the agency physician, together with this report, I believe to be a fair showing of the condition of affairs under my charge.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. HUNT,
*United States Indian Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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OSAGE AND KAW AGENCY,
*August* 31, 1879.

SIR: I have the pleasure to present to you my first annual report of Indians under my care.

The *Osages* number 2,135, of which 263 are mixed-bloods. All are peaceably located on their present reservation, and have apparently given up the idea of living by the "hunt." This change of life has manifested the need of a material change in the management of their political and civil affairs. There is a necessity for leaders that will grasp and advocate the benefits of civilized life, and prove by example that they appreciate its benefits. As they become individual possessors of property they need protection in the same. I have realized this to be one of the pressing needs during my short stay among them. The old custom of living in a common "mess" affords but little encouragement to those who are willing to labor; as many are always around to live at their expense. I trust that in the near future they may be encouraged and assisted to make for themselves some simple laws for their individual protection in holding property, and thus secure to those that labor, the fruits of their labor.

The health of the Osages for the past year has been measurably good; although quite a large number of deaths have occurred, they have been mostly those who were aged and infirm. I believe they are as free from hereditary diseases as the average communities in the States. There seems to be one difference, however; they carry their sufferings until nature gives way, and then death suddenly ensues, it may be at home, it may be by the roadside.

These Indians have for many years been planting corn patches. They commence in the spring with energy to prepare for the annual crop, but neglect it during the summer, thereby reaping a poor harvest. Extra efforts have been made the past season to assist and encourage them to cultivate their crops, which have only met with partial success, as dry weather has materially damaged all crops in this locality. Early vegetables did very well, and most of the Indians raised a plentiful supply.

The following estimate gives a pretty correct idea of their present labors in this direction, with amount of stock and implements owned by them:

| | Mules. | Ponies. | Cattle. | Hogs. | Chickens. | Wagons. | Sets harness. | Plows, stirring. | Plows, double-shovel. | Acres corn. | Acres wheat. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Joe's band | 18 | 399 | 34 | 228 | 398 | 28 | 48 | 44 | 12 | 153 | ..... |
| White Ham's band | 10 | 283 | 28 | 296 | 307 | 15 | 39 | 29 | 8 | 105 | ..... |
| Big Hill band | 6 | 148 | 22 | 82 | 123 | 10 | 26 | 23 | 9 | 74½ | ..... |
| Tall Chief's band | 7 | 226 | 24 | 193 | 244 | 10 | 41 | 39 | 10 | 108 | ..... |
| Beaver's band | 5 | 162 | 77 | 586 | 188 | 15 | 19 | 23 | 13 | 107 | 6 |
| Big Chief's band | 9 | 363 | 65 | 536 | 263 | 18 | 20 | 28 | 4 | 74 | ..... |
| Strike Axe band | 4 | 190 | 41 | 196 | 143 | 14 | 19 | 22 | 6 | 99 | 19 |
| Saucy Chief's band | 3 | 121 | 41 | 225 | 361 | 12 | 17 | 18 | 5 | 67 | ..... |
| Napanalla band | 4 | 148 | 93 | 205 | 33 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 65 | 18 |
| Nekakepana band | 5 | 64 | 20 | 78 | 158 | 12 | 14 | 10 | 5 | 56 | ..... |
| Clamore's band | 2 | 105 | 8 | 130 | 22 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 5 | 39 | 3 |
| William Penn's band | 4 | 172 | 19 | 105 | 42 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 20 | ..... |
| Black Dog's band | 2 | 200 | 12 | 92 | 32 | 6 | 15 | 15 | 4 | 16 | ..... |
| Wantianka band | 2 | 76 | 14 | 35 | 25 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 21 | ..... |
| Half-Breed band | 14 | 139 | 932 | 1,431 | 1,221 | 49 | 50 | 46 | 19 | 467 | 288 |
| Total | 95 | 2,736 | 1,430 | 4,418 | 3,560 | 203 | 338 | 326 | 116 | 1,471 | 338 |

As will be seen, they have ample facilities for improvements in agriculture. I think there is little necessity for supplying them with more implements except those who may want to start anew. A few more wagons would be an advantage, as they are rather selfish and dislike to lend each other their property. They are fully supplied with hogs, which live mainly on the *mast*. They take very good care of cattle, and many more could be given them to advantage, as their country is well adapted for grazing.

They have received no rations except beef, since July 1, and I believe had they been favored with a seasonable year, they could have supported themselves. They seem determined not to go back to the ration system, as they claim it is very demoralizing. I believe if we can get them through this winter without returning to the ration system they will make a double effort next season to produce sufficient to live upon.

The school has been kept up during the year with a greater average attendance than in any previous year. To accomplish this it has taken arduous labor, as children seem to prefer the freedom of home. They have to be gone to the camp for, and even then their parents often reluctantly give them up, and I am assured that this has ever been the case since the first efforts made for their education by those that have known them for years, and from the limited number that can speak English after so long and intimate connection with civilization. But few of those that were in school a few years ago retain the citizen's dress, and comparatively few speak English. The children learn well while at school, and could they be kept regularly there a few years most of them would become good English scholars.

The *Kaw* Indians, situated on a reservation northwest of the Osages, number about 360, of which 60 are mixed-bloods. They are rapidly diminishing, having lost about one-half their number in seven years, caused mainly by contagious diseases with which the tribe is largely infected. Many of them are good workers, and all have small farms upon which they raise sufficient to very nearly subsist themselves. They have a boarding-school well attended by nearly all the children in the tribe of a suitable school age. While their outlook is not very promising, I believe there yet may be a goodly number of intelligent persons raised up among them to perpetuate their name.

The *Quapaws*, having many of them connections among the Osages, and in accordance with agreement made between the two tribes by which they should be incorporated with the Osages, came here in the spring of 1879 in number about 150, leaving, as I learn from them, about 30 on their old reservation. They are very poor, and have had a discouraging time since their arrival, most of them coming too late to put in a crop. They have been compelled to shift as best they could. They do not feel satisfied to make permanent improvements until their tribal affairs shall have been settled. They seem willing to work, and I believe if they could be once settled on this reservation it would prove a benefit to themselves as well as the Osages. Their great reason for wanting to come here was to get away from one of the *great evils* prevailing in the *civilized States*, "whisky." To their credit and to the credit of the Indian service, I am happy to say that not one of them has been known to be intoxicated since their arrival here.

In reviewing the year's service, while there has not been that marked improvement that I hoped to see, yet I believe the Indians have made some advancement in individual manhood.

Indian freighting has been a success, and a privilege they all appreciate.

The policy of individuals receipting for supplies instead of chiefs, has done much to place all upon an equal footing, and while it is not relished by the latter, yet I believe it is the true principle, and trust the time will soon come when an Indian will be held accountable or protected by law whether the offense is with a white man or Indian.

L. J. MILES,
*United States Indian Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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PAWNEE AGENCY, INDIAN TERRITORY,
*October* 25, 1879.

SIR: In compliance with departmental instructions I have the honor to submit this my first annual report. I assumed charge of this agency July 4th, and the remaining portion of the month was engaged in examining and receipting for the property, and organizing the employés so as to obtain efficiency in conducting the operations and business of the agency.

From my own knowledge I am not able to make as full a report as may be desired, and the memoranda of the last year's operations under Agent Williams are so incomplete as to be almost worthless. The statistics herewith inclosed, accompaniment to "Annual report," are as nearly correct and full as I am able to compile from such data as

I have at hand in this office of the last year's operations at this agency. I have taken pains to inform myself of the condition of affairs at this agency, and I think I understand the wants of the Pawnees, their social, educational, and sanitary condition, and my observations and conclusions may be of interest to the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs. I beg leave to insert them in this, although they may not properly belong to it, reflecting as they must and will upon the administration of my predecessor.

The location of this agency on Bear Creek, tributary to Arkansas River, Indian Territory, in section 32, township 22 south, range 6 east, is pleasantly situated 70 miles south of Arkansas City, Kansas, 105 miles southwest from Coffeyville, Kansas. The surrounding country is rather broken and only adapted to stock-raising, and large herds of cattle and hogs can be easily kept upon the mast in the timber the whole year round. The farming lands are along the river and creek bottoms, and are well adapted to the raising of corn, vegetables, melons, beans, and sweet and Irish potatoes, though this past year the potato crop has been a complete failure on account of the continued drought which lasted from the middle of May to the middle of September, although fair crops of corn, melons, beans, and pumpkins were raised by the Indians, who also have raised and harvested 500 bushels of wheat, which is of better quality than any I have seen from the State of Kansas. Had the proper exertion been made, these Indians could have been saved half a wheat contract this year, and the whole corn needed to run the agency could have been raised by themselves. No corn or any other crops have been raised by the agency farmer the past year, and the land occupied by the industrial school only partially cultivated. There are no vegetables whatever now in store for the use of the school children during the coming winter, and having no fruits, scurvy has already made its appearance in the industrial school.

The government farm has been farmed out as squaw patches, and the Indians allowed to erect houses near the field on land of no value to them as farms, who have expected to be allowed the same privilege for all future time. This I shall stop, and take steps to remove every Indian lodge or house near the agency to farms, where they can make such crops and improvements as will be of benefit to them.

The property of the government at the agency buildings and of the farm, shops, and mill, were sadly out of repair and scattered from one end of the reservation to the other, so much so that the total of government employés here were engaged over two weeks in hunting up and scheduling the property in order to be receipted for by me. The carpenter and blacksmith have been employed much of their time in repair on agricultural tools and work pertaining to their respective departments; the farmer and his assistants in repairing fences which have been thrown down, while thousands of rails have been burned up by Indians who were permitted to remain in tepees near the agency, whose only real labor was to watch the opening of the commissary doors, and feast and dance, month in and month out.

There was no provision made for the maintenance of the agency teams and cattle in the way of planting corn for fodder; the teams were in a sad condition, being driven by Indians, cared for by Indians, who worked them to a great disadvantage by day, and rode them to death at night. I have changed all this, and have been enabled to do a fair amount of work, and the teams are improving, though they cannot be considered of any real value, having been worn out and broken down.

All the buildings at the agency are sadly out of repair; the plastering from the ceiling and walls at the office in every room, without any exception, fallen off; the industrial-school building and appurtenances not in repair, and the furniture at school, which is understood to have cost a year ago $3,000, not worth $250, carpets worn out, chairs and bedsteads broken, and kitchen furniture either broken up or stolen. The houses of the employés with the exception of three or four are unfit for occupancy, plastering off, roofs leaking and generally out of repair, and were never built with reference to convenience and comfort, having no gardens attached, are open to the commons, and poor wells, and they are at too great distance apart.

The employés number 22; 12 at manual-labor school, 1 at Chowe, and 2 at agency day schools, making 15, and 7 other employés, miller, engineer, farmer, carpenter, blacksmith, doctor, and clerk. This arrangement has been changed, as may be seen by reference to descriptive list of employés, and I think more efficiency at less cost to the government results will result.

The teachers have proved efficient, and are earnest and energetic in the discharge of their duties, and I have been pleased to ask their continuance at the industrial school, while the greater portion of the other employés have also been retained by me, deeming them intelligent and proficient in their several stations. The carpenter and his assistants have done their best with the limited amount of lumber furnished by mill, but many houses, with only the logs laid up in squares, existed on my assuming charge of this agency, and others could not be completed for want of proper lumber for door and window frames, &c. I have established, by your permission, a lumber-mill (on the Cimarron River, now furnishing lumber), and before December 1 the new saw, with new engine, will be cutting boards and square timber at the mill at agency for houses, bridge-building, &c. Shingles from the cedars on the Cimarron will be soon coming, as the mill is in position and the trees being cut to supply the shingle-mill.

The social and moral condition of these Indians I presume does not differ much from that of most other tribes of Indians, and greatest care and prudence in selecting proper persons as employés must be exercised, so that good example as well as precept, may be given in order to accomplish the desired results. Every person connected with an agency should be a kind of missionary. Their daily walk and conversation should be so graduated as to lead these people upward toward a higher social and moral plane in the scale of humanity.

There is a gradually increasing desire for intellectual improvement, and the limited school facilities are now crowded to their utmost capacity. I can safely say that were the buildings of the industrial boarding school double their present size, I would experience no difficulty in filling them up in the next 30 days. The honorable Secretary of the Interior saw the necessity of some action being taken in this direction, and requested me to make plans and estimates for an extension to the industrial-school building, which plans and estimates are now nearly ready, and will be soon forwarded for your inspection. There is needed a day school for each band, and only such children admitted to the industrial boarding school as had made proper advancement in the band day schools. The farmers of the different bands should have charge of the band school, and such scholars from the industrial school as have obtained sufficient knowledge of the English language and can read and write well, should be placed in the band school as interpreters and assistants. This plan is feasible here and can be made very valuable to the Pawnees under *proper management.*

There is one very prominent evil existing here, and that is proper sanitary regulations, which I am inclined to think has been sadly neglected. The camps are not visited as often as they should be, and proper cleanliness enforced by the physician in charge. I consider "cleanliness next to godliness," and a valuable element in the plan of civilization. The doctor can and must be a man of nerve and energy, and should be a man of large practical experience if these Indians are ever induced to give up the traditional "medicine man" and to rely upon the medical facilities furnished by the government.

A word as to the conclusion that I have arrived at which I deem reasonably correct. The *Pawnees* are a willing, tractable, and loyal people, and they only need good advice and proper encouragement to enable them to soon arrive at a point where they will not be pensioners on the government, but elevated socially, intellectually, and morally, with good schools, good farms and farm-houses, good herds of cattle and hogs, and well on the road to prosperity and happiness.

The Pawnees to-day are asking for farms, for oxen, for wagons, harness, and farming utensils; asking for houses, cooking-stoves, and bedsteads, evidences of civilization, and are anxious to learn the white man's ways, wear white man's dress, go to school as white people do, attend church as white people, and to leave off old Pawnee ways, Pawnee traditions and customs; marrying and living with one wife, and supporting, by their labor, wife and children. They have taken a step in the right direction; they feel that the government is their friend; that its agent is going to do them good; they are taking his advice, and have now 300 acres of wheat sown, are cutting timber for rails and logs for lumber to build houses; having farms surveyed and scattering out from their mud huts, and hauling their own freight 135 miles, willing and anxious to labor and to become a civilized Christian people.

In conclusion, let me remark that I have taken hold of these people to do them good. My heart is with them in sympathy as Indians, and I hope to be sustained by the department in all proper action. I will not deceive these people, and I hope not to disappoint the Indian Bureau. I know my duty, and without fear or favor I shall conscientiously strive to do it.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. SMITH,
*United States Indian Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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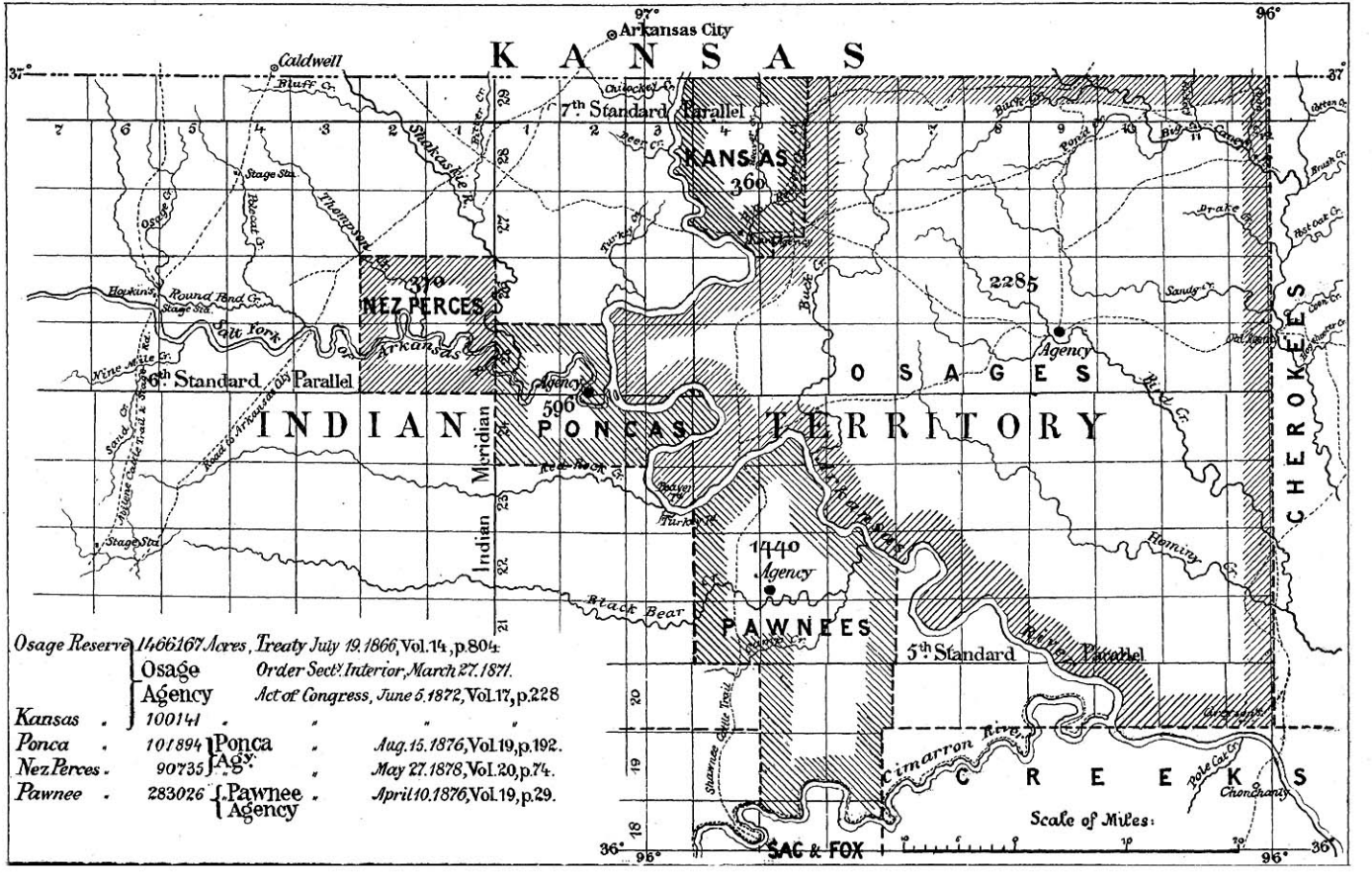
PONCA AGENCY, INDIAN TERRITORY,
*August* 31, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my second annual report of the condition of affairs at this agency.

The past year has been one of unceasing labor for every person connected with this agency. At the date of my last report, we had just arrived, and were commencing settlement upon this reservation. The soil was virgin, and a solitary warehouse was all there was to mark the march of civilization. At that time the Poncas were very poor; a few ponies, some old wagons and harness constituted the whole of their possessions. They were unacclimated and the fatal malaria so prevalent in this latitude was rapidly decimating their numbers, and they had become discouraged and disheart-




| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Osage Reserve | 1466167 Acres, | Treaty July 19. 1866, Vol. 14, p. 804. | |
| Osage Agency | | Order Sec'y Interior, March 27. 1871. | |
| | | Act of Congress, June 5. 1872, Vol. 17, p. 228 | |
| Kansas | 100141 | " " " | |
| Ponca | 101894 | Ponca Agy. " | Aug. 15. 1876, Vol. 19, p. 192. |
| Nez Perces | 90735 | " " | May 27. 1878, Vol. 20, p. 74. |
| Pawnee | 283026 | Pawnee Agency " | April 10. 1876, Vol. 19, p. 29. |

ened, and had almost lost faith in the government which had brought them into this new country (as they said) to die. But all this has changed. Under the magic hand of toil the wilderness has given place to the abodes of men, and if not made to blossom as the rose, is at least in the bud, which will soon burst forth in all its beauty.

During the past year much has been said in the public press about the former and present condition of the *Poncas;* indeed, more scientific lying has been done upon the subject than upon any other which has lately been before the American people; according to the papers they have been mercilessly robbed and cruelties unparalleled practiced upon them. It has been stated upon the rostrum and circulated through the prominent journals of the country, by an attorney, who has in court represented the interests of certain renegade members of the tribe, that the Poncas were, against their will and by force of arms, removed from their old home in Dakota to the Indian Territory, and were compelled to abandon and leave behind them personal property of the value of $200,000, for which they never have been remunerated. This statement is made either in ignorance of the facts or else purposely and maliciously fabricated to subserve personal ends, for certainly there is nothing in the facts to warrant such a statement.

The true history of the removal and the causes which led to the removal of the Poncas are simply these: For a great many years prior to their removal, the Poncas lived upon a reservation in Southeastern Dakota, between the Missouri and the Niobrara Rivers, and at the confluence of these rivers, while the whole region of country north and west of them was inhabited by the hostile Sioux. The Poncas were peaceful in disposition, and the Sioux fierce, treacherous, and cruel. They would not let the Poncas live in peace, but made frequent hostile incursions upon them, killing many of their people, destroying their property, and running off their stock. For many years they lived in constant dread of their savage neighbors; they never went to the field to work without being armed, and strong guards were constantly kept out to protect the workmen. This was so annoying to the Poncas that they petitioned the government to move them out of the reach of the Sioux.

By the terms of the treaty of 1858, the government agreed "to protect the Poncas in the possession of their land and their persons and property thereon," and when it failed to protect, the Poncas presented their claim for damages and the government had it to pay. By the terms of the supplemental treaty of 1865, the government paid to the Poncas as indemnity for spoliation committed upon them by the Sioux, $15,080, and they still have a large unsettled claim against the government, upon the same account, for damages done them subsequent to that time.

By a treaty made by the government with the Sioux in 1868, the Ponca lands were ceded to them by mistake, so that both tribes claimed the land; the Poncas had the oldest and best title, but the Sioux being so much stronger, and regarding and treating the Poncas as trespassers, were fast sending them to the "happy hunting-grounds," and thus the question presented itself to the government, the duty of protecting the weak against the strong, of saving human lives; this was paramount to the question of title, because conceding as it did the Ponca title to be good, the government was unable to protect them in the peaceable enjoyment of it, and the only just and humane thing it could do was to move them out of the reach of their oppressors, the government could pay for the spoliation, but it could not restore the dead to life.

When the time came for the tribe to be moved to the Indian Territory, they were loath to leave the country in which they had passed their lives, and their ancestors and children were buried; they realized that they were breaking up old associations, sundering ties that were very dear to them, and were entering upon a new life, which would be entirely strange to them; and as these thoughts crowded upon their minds, it was perfectly natural that when the order was given to them to move, they should hesitate; they did not refuse, but, Indian-like, they wanted to parley and hold council over the matter. They fully appreciated the fact that it was necessary for their own protection that they should go away, and so they came, sad-hearted and regretful of the causes which made it necessary. They were not removed by force; no troops accompanied them. They were not compelled to leave behind them property of the value of $200,000. All of their property worth moving was brought away; a few old bedsteads and cook-stoves were left behind, but all the property they left was not worth $500, and would not sell in any place in the world for half that sum, and for that they have been remunerated a thousand-fold. They have been given a body of land here, greater in extent than their old reservation, and competent judges, who are well acquainted with the relative value of both bodies of land, say that one acre of the new reservation is worth more than five acres of the old.

The Poncas number at this time on the reservation, 530 people. Sixty-six persons ran off from the reservation during the year and are now scattered among the northern agencies. There have died during the year 26 persons; 16 births have occurred in the same period.

The agency buildings consist of the agent's residence, a very comfortable and commodious frame house two stories high, containing eight rooms, besides pantry, closets,

and cellar. Six houses for employés, built of frame, and containing four rooms each; a commissary building, containing office, 24 by 70 feet; a good substantial frame school house, 28 by 50 feet; a carpenter shop, blacksmith-shop, coal-house, tool-house, ice-house; a dining-hall for school children; a good steam saw-mill and shingle-machine. All of these buildings have been constructed during the last year, and the principal portion of the lumber has been produced here.

Besides the agency buildings enumerated above, I have built over 70 houses for the Indians to live in, a majority of which are of hewed logs, which were cut, hewed, and laid in place by the Indians, who were paid for their labor. Carpenters then completed the houses by putting in doors, windows, laying floors, and putting on roofs.

There were purchased and issued to the Indians during the year, in addition to their annuity goods and supplies, 150 cows with calves; 25 yoke of oxen; 40 wagons; 40 sets of double harness; 12 breaking-plows; 50 stirring-plows; 25 double-shovel plows; 12 dozen hoes; 6 dozen axes, shovels, spades, and mechanical tools.

### FARMING.

We broke during the year about 350 acres of prairie and should have broken much more, but so little rain has fallen this season that it became so dry I was compelled to stop the breaking-teams.

I have as an agency farm over 100 acres, surrounded by a good post and wire fence. All but about 10 acres of this was planted in corn; the remaining 10 acres was broken with special care, and subsoiled; this I planted in potatoes, beans, pease, pumpkins, radishes, &c., expecting to raise seed for next year, but no rain of any consequence has fallen since planting, and the whole crop has therefore entirely failed.

The Indians planted in corn and vegetables all the land I was able to break for them, and were eager for more. They exhibited a great deal of interest in their crops, and after planting watched the growth with much solicitude for the fate of the luscious watermelon, the fragrant muskmelon, and the delicious roasting ears. But the rain which goeth around the just and the unjust, the red man as well as the white man, left their crops to dry up and wither. This, of course, has discouraged the Indians very much.

I have cut and stacked with the labor of the agency employés about 150 tons of excellent hay, and the Indians have put up nearly as much more.

The Indians take great interest in their cows and calves, and many of them are raising hogs and chickens. I having been strenuously urging them to sell their surplus ponies and invest the proceeds in cattle, but thus far with poor success, as an Indian values his pony above all his other possessions, and it is his only standard of wealth.

### SCHOOL.

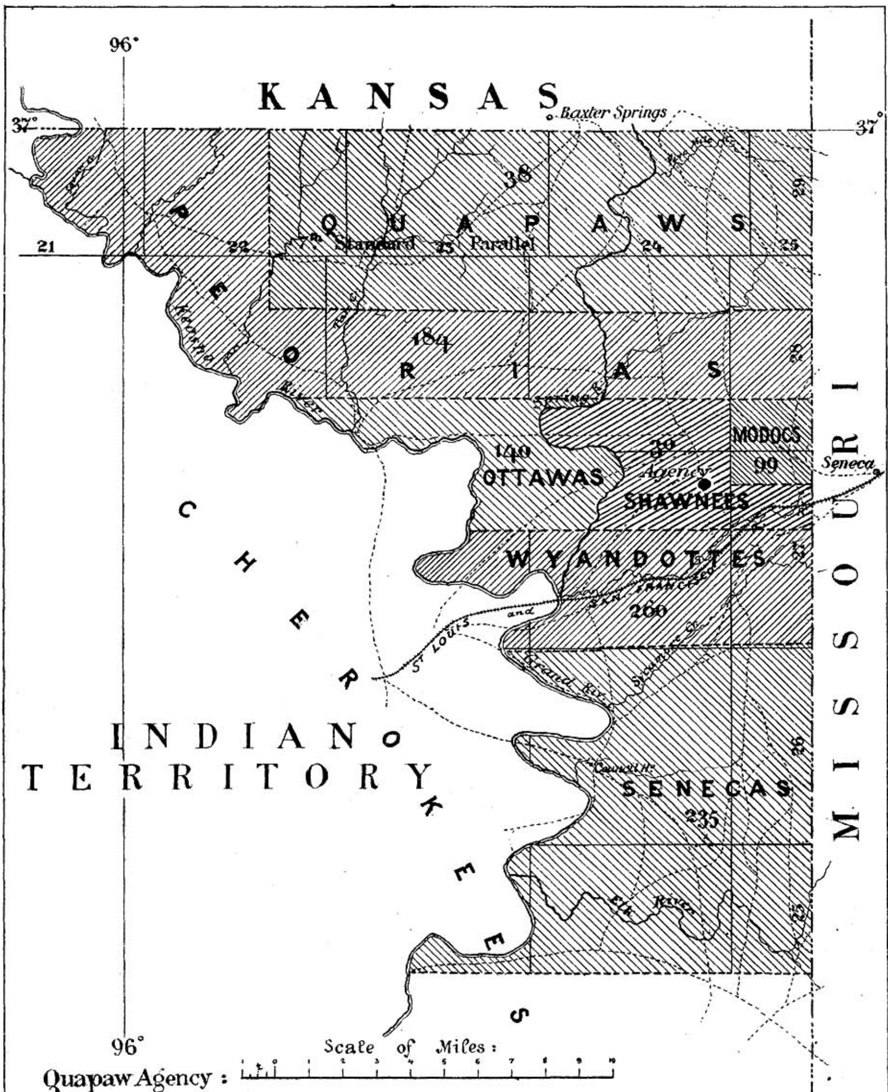
We have a day-school in successful operation, with an average attendance of about 50. Many more would attend, who are now prevented by reason of their living so remote from the agency. I have a dining-hall, where the children are given a plain substantial lunch at noon. Without this valuable adjunct to the school, I fear the daily attendance would be much smaller. With the children I find that the prospect of getting a good dinner is a wonderful incentive and stimulant to their desire for knowledge.

### NEZ PERCÉS.

On the 14th day of June, 1879, Special Agent J. M. Haworth arrived here with *Chief Joseph's band of Nez Percés*, and turned them over to my charge.

The Nez Percé Reservation is northwest of the Poncas, and the greater portion of their land is west of the Shikaskia, and north of the Salt Fork River. It is a very good body of land, tolerably well supplied with timber and water, but in no respect is it equal to the Ponca Reservation.

The majority of the Indians are at present living on the west bank of the Shikaskia River, about two miles from where it empties into the Salt Fork. The location, I think, is a healthy one, and the Indians are as healthy as could be expected. There is this fact about the Nez Percés, which, perhaps, is hardly ever considered, viz, that most of the young able-bodied men and women were engaged in their late war with the government, and many of them were killed and wounded, and a large proportion of the Nez Percés brought to the Indian Territory were old people and children, which accounts in a great measure for the many deaths which have occurred among them. I have also observed both among the Nez Percés and Poncas, who came from northern climates, that lung diseases are very prevalent. I think that seven Indians out of every ten have their lungs diseased so badly that they could not live long in any climate, and while I do not desire to depreciate the fearful ravages made by malaria on northern Indians in the Indian Territory, yet I give it as my opinion, which I believe will be




Quapaw Agency:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Quapaw Reserve* | *56685 Acres.* | *Treaties May 13. 1833,* Vol.7, p.424, *Feby. 23. 1867,* Vol.15, p.513. |
| *Peoria* " | *50301* " | *Treaty Feby. 23. 1867,* Vol.15, p.513. |
| *Modoc* " | *4040* " | *Act of Congress March 3. 1875,* Vol.18, p.447 |
| *Shawnee* " | *13048* " | *Treaties July 20. 1831,* Vol.7, p.351, *Dec. 29. 1832,* Vol.7, p.411, *Feby. 23. 1867,* Vol.15, p.513, *Act of Congress March 3. 1875,* Vol.18, p.447. |
| *Ottawa* " | *14860* " | *Treaty Feby. 23. 1867,* Vol.15, p.513. |
| *Wyandotte* " | *21406* " | " " " |
| *Seneca* " | *51958* " | *Treaties Feby. 28. 1831,* Vol.7, p.348, *Dec. 29. 1832,* Vol.7, p.411, *Feby. 23. 1867,* Vol.15, p.513. |

born out by statistics, that more Indians die from pulmonary diseases in the Northwest than die from the effects of malaria in the Indian Territory.

The Nez Percés are of rather small frame, sharp-featured people; they are intelligent, but the men are very indolent, they have never been put to work and I do not think they will take to it very kindly; hard work, at least, has nothing to fear from them, they will handle it very gently. The Nez Percé women are far superior to the men, and, indeed, are superior to any Indian women I have ever seen. They are intelligent, very cleanly in their habits, are exceedingly expert with the needle, and are very vivacious and friendly, contrary to all other Indian women I have seen, always responding to a white person's salutation with a friendly nod and smile.

The Nez Percés number at this time 370; but little improvement has yet been made for them. I have nearly completed a commodious and substantial warehouse, and will proceed building other necessary agency buildings and dwellings for the Indians as rapidly as practicable.

The Nez Percés have cut and stacked about 75 tons of hay to feed their horses during the winter.

Twenty-five teams, mostly mares, were purchased for them last spring while they were at the Quapaw Agency. I think a mistake was made in buying for them American horses instead of the Indian pony. The American horse requires more attention than the Indian will give him. An Indian pony will live on cottonwood bark all winter and come out sleek in the spring. They literally take care of themselves, while the other must have a warm stable, be carefully curried and well fed, else they do not thrive.

I think the Indians are making rapid improvement both mentally and morally. Many of their old customs and superstitions cling to them, but we are gradually weeding them out and turning their thoughts into other channels.

The school is doing a good work. The work of the elevation of the Indian must be done by this, and the coming generations; the young must be educated and made the instruments of saving their people. The old people realize this; many of them have said to me that they were too old to learn new ways, but the white man's way was right, and they wanted their children taught to follow in it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. WHITEMAN,
*United States Indian Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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QUAPAW AGENCY, INDIAN TERRITORY,
*August* 27, 1879.

SIR: In compliance with instruction from the department, I have the honor to submit my annual report of the condition and affairs of this agency, which must necessarily be incomplete, as I have been but a short time in charge.

By instruction from the department I reported to the Hon. John McNeil, United States Indian inspector at Baxter Springs, Kansas, on the 18th of April last, and coming with him to this agency he removed H. W. Jones, esq., as agent and placed me in charge. At that time the Indians of the agency consisted of a small remnant of the *Quapaws*, the *Confederated Peorias and Miamies*, *Ottawas*, *Eastern Shawnees*, *Wyandottes*, *Senecas*, *Modocs*, and the *Joseph Band of Nez Percés*.

Among the first duties required of me was the removal of the Nez Percés from this to the Ponca Agency, on to a reservation selected for them at the confluence of the Shikaskia and Salt Fork Rivers. Considerable preparation being necessary, including the purchase of horses, wagons, &c., with which to move, some time expired before a start was made, which was done on the 6th of June, and the journey of one hundred and eighty miles accomplished without accident in nine days, and the people safely delivered to the care of Agent W. H. Whiteman on the 15th of June.

Of the remaining tribes, 38 Quapaws, including men, women, and children, are all that are left at this agency of that tribe, the others having gone to the Osage Agency and united with the Indians there. Those remaining here, though occupying the Quapaw Reservation of 56,685 acres, with plenty of land broken, fenced, and ready for cultivation, have done little or no good, only cultivating about 36 acres among them all, and would have suffered for the necessaries of life had it not been for a little pittance received by them from parties who have grazed stock upon their land or got other privileges from them, such as cutting hay or buying ties, which, by the way, are only gotten by stealth, as it is against the law. Their lands have for several years been occupied as grazing grounds for large herds of Texas cattle, with no one to look after the matter but the Indians themselves, and they have been paid nominally 10 cents per head per year for such privileges. One person who was holding a herd of near 400 sheep on the reservation informed me he was doing so under a verbal contract with the

Indians, for which he was to pay $3 for the whole flock or herd for the entire season, and said he had already paid by giving two of the Indians a sheep in place of the money. By a wise order of the department this state of affairs will cease with this year; hereafter the price being fixed for cattle at 10 cents per month per head instead of 10 cents per year.

Among the few remaining Quapaws are some very intelligent men, who with proper instruction and training would be well able to take care of themselves, but they should be removed to the Osage Agency and become consolidated with that tribe, as but little can be expected from them as long as they remain as they now are, and five-sixths of the tribe are already there. Near 600 acres of land on their reservation have been cultivated by white people as renters this year, agreeing to give the Indians one-third of the crop as a rental. I was informed by one of the Indians that he got from one of his renters last year, who had in cultivation 18 acres, about 8 bushels of corn for his share; if the divide was honest the yield was small.

The Peorias, Weas, Piankeshaws, confederated, number 122 people, a part of whom are of mixed blood. They are an intelligent class of people, and their many years of association with white people have changed their ways until very little of the Indian custom is left with them. While there may be exceptions in a few individual cases, the majority of them are sufficiently advanced in civilization to take their places as citizens, though, unfortunately for them, while educated in much that is necessary for their success in life, the all important matter of industry has been neglected by many of them during the last few years, and this has been encouraged and promoted by the habit commenced among them a few years ago of renting their farms to white people on the shares, and preferring to eat bread earned by the sweat of some other face than their own. This is also the case to a greater or less degree with all the tribes belonging to this agency, and with the others as well as the Peorias has made them idlers instead of what they should be, industrious communities.

In gathering the statistics for this report I learn that there has been cultivated on the Peoria Reserve 1,601 acres, of which 210 have been cultivated by Indians and employed help, and 1,391 acres by white renters.

The Miamies, who are the neighbors and affiliated with the Peorias, whose united tracts of land comprise 50,301 acres, much of which is fine bottom land, well adapted to agricultural purposes, while that not so adapted is equally good for grazing, number 62 people, which includes several white men "married into the nation." Like the Peorias, the Indian portion of them have left behind most of the Indian ways and customs, and most of them are qualified to step upon the platform of civilization and be numbered among men. The full bloods are very much in the minority; there has been cultivated on their reservation this year 988 acres, of which 198 have been cultivated by Indians and 790 by white renters.

The Ottawas number 140 people, and own a reservation of 14,860 acres, most of which is fine land, on which they have some good improvements, comfortable frame houses, barns, orchards, and all that is necessary to constitute a pleasant place for a home. Of their reservation 914 acres are in cultivation, 53 of which are by Indians and 861 by white renters. The Ottawas have had the advantages of civilizing influences for many years, have in fact once been made citizens by treaty stipulations; most of them have some education and are an intelligent class of people. Only a few years ago, under the influence of many annuities, which is a curse to any tribe, many of them were dissipated and drunkards. To-day that character is the exception, and as a rule they may be classed as sober men.

The Eastern Shawnees number 80 people, men, women, and children; have a reservation of 13,088 acres of land, of which there has been cultivated this year 794 acres, of which 123 acres has been by Indians and employed help, and 671 acres by white renters. The most of them have comfortable log houses and small fields. While some of them may be classed as industrious, others still depend upon the money annuity too much, and seem to enjoy life without work.

The Wyandottes number 260 people. This includes many adopted members; there are but few among them who are not of mixed blood. They have a reservation of 21,706 acres, of which there has been in cultivation during the present year 1,250 acres, of which the Indians by themselves and hired help have cultivated 368 acres and the white renters 890 acres. A part of the Wyandottes, like the Ottawas, for a time enjoyed the privileges of citizenship, but preferring the freedom of Indian life, by their own choice again became wards of the government, sold out their lands in Kansas, and took up their abode in the Territory. They number among them men of intelligence and education, fitted in almost every respect to share in the responsibilities of government as well as receive a part of its benefits.

The Senecas are composed of two or three different tribes, all affiliated and known as Senecas. They number 235 people, and own a reservation of 51,958 acres, a part of which is very rough, stony land, fit only for grazing purposes. On their reservation during the year there has been in cultivation 1,028 acres, of which the Indians have cultivated 624 acres, and 404 acres have been cultivated by white renters. The Sene-

cas were not as quick to adopt the customs of white people and come under civilizing influences as the other tribes of the agency. Only a short period has elapsed since they have given up many of their wild Indian customs, and they still hold to their annual green-corn dance, though the effect of civilization now takes away even in that case much of the zeal and animation they were wont to throw into it in former years. Only two or three years ago they would not allow their children to go to school; now none are more anxious than they to have their children in school, and no children learn faster than theirs.

The Modocs number 99 men, women, and children, and own a reservation of 4,000 acres, purchased by the government for them from the Shawnees, of which 307 are in cultivation; 30 acres have been cultivated by white renters and 277 by the Indians themselves. Considering their chances, it may truthfully be said of them, they have done well. Only a little over six years have passed since they were brought from the lava beds of California, where they had boldly and defiantly withstood a largely superior force for a long time, and where by treachery some valuable lives were sacrificed, while others were miraculously saved even when the brittle thread was half severed. They are intelligent, and in many respects the peers of some of their neighbors who have for many years been under civilizing influences. By direction of the honorable Commissioner a large and commodious school-house has been built for them within the last few months, of which they are justly proud; since its completion, they have a Sabbath school and formed a church organization, 48 putting their names down as members, and one of their own number installed as pastor or leader—Steamboat Frank—who feels the responsibility of his position and will undoubtedly exert a good influence over his people.

For a short time they were very much aroused, excited, and unsettled by the murder of a boy of their tribe by one John Albert, a merchant in Seneca, Mo., but yielded to good counsel and decided to leave the matter to the law, which unfortunately has not been allowed to assert its majesty, but would seem to have been more used to defeat than to administer justice.

Besides the various tribes named, there are a number of other Indians living upon the lands belonging to the Indians of this agency who are not officially recognized as belonging to it. Part of them belong in the Cherokee country and others belong with the Pottawatomies, all numbering near 75 souls.

### SCHOOLS.

The schools closed for a short vacation on the 30th June. The examinations at close of term showed that much care and attention had been bestowed upon the children, which in turn had been improved by them. The total enrollment at the schools is as follows:

| | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|
| Quapaw, Modoc, and Ottawa boarding-school | 41 | 45 |
| Seneca, Shawnee, and Wyandott boarding-school | 63 | 56 |
| Peoria day-school | 15 | 16 |
| Miami | 10 | 11 |
| Total | 129 | 128 |

The reason of difference in this report and that of last year arises from the fact that a large number of white children were borne upon the register last year that are not included in this report. I have not been able to get exactly the number of births and deaths, but from the best information I can get the deaths exceed the births.

Intemperance and drunkenness have prevailed to a very great degree. The saloons of Seneca have sent many drunken Indians home with brains fired with their vile poison—in some instances to commit desperate crimes, and in many cases to disturb whole neighborhoods, causing women and children to flee from their homes to the woods or some neighbor's house to save their lives. Of all the enemies the Indian has ever had none have done him more harm than whisky, and nothing else arouses his vicious nature as much as does strong drink. Many murders have been committed by the Indians belonging to this agency within a few years without cause, and for no other reason than that the reason of the murderer was dethroned by strong drink, and all the evil passions of his nature were aroused by the same influence. Surely all that law can do should be thrown around them to protect them from the rumseller's power. Recently four men were arrested in Seneca, Mo., for selling whisky to Indians, and two of them were recognized to the October term of the United States court; three others were arrested in Baxter for the same offense and bound over to the United States court. The penalty in such cases being very severe, if conviction is had in these cases it is hoped it will in some degree put a stop to the sale to Indians. The Indians have a very good temperance organization, which meets each Sabbath at the

Ottawa school buildings; most of the Ottawas and Modocs and some of Shawnees are members of it. The Shawnees, having been farthest removed from the missionary influences of the schools, have not been benefited thereby as much as some of the others who have lived nearer the mission schools and attended the religious exercises held at them.

RENTING.

A system of renting has been carried on for some time several years, until most of the farming is done by white people, and the country presents very much the appearance of a white man's country. Had this been confined to such lands as the Indians could not farm themselves and been sanctioned by law, the result might have been beneficial. As it is, instead of having been an advantage it has encouraged idleness and dependence among the Indians, until many of them are reduced to the base of beginners; and now, when the door of the Territory almost swings open of its own accord to admit the anxious and waiting thousands, they have to begin again to learn habits of industry and self-protection, which to them is certainly a great misfortune and hard to remedy. The order from the department requiring the renters to remove from the Territory is creating some commotion, but will be best for the Indians in the end.

There is great need of some system of law more effective than that now extant for the government of this country; a law punishing one Indian for crimes against the person or property of another is very much needed. Almost every day some offense is committed the perpetrator of which should be punished; but there is no law to reach such cases, and the offender goes quit without punishment. Only by stringent and well-executed law will the lawlessness be broken up, and Indians as well as white people be secure in their rights.

The Indian police do much good and exert a very wholesome influence upon the evil-disposed, but a simple arrest and such punishment as an agent may be able to inflict comes far short of meeting such cases as often occur.

Many of these persons who attempted early in the spring to enter upon the Quapaw and part of the Peoria lands and make homes are still anxiously waiting an opportunity to carry out their purposes; some of them slip in once a month by night and renew their marks, thinking thereby to keep their claims alive until such time as they can move in and take possession.

The agency buildings at the agency proper, excepting the agent's residence, which is a good comfortable frame house, are very poor; in fact, the exigencies or necessities of the service will soon require the erection of new ones in their place. The present location is an unfortunate one in several respects. The water has to be hauled some distance the greater part of the year; the woods on the south shut off the summer breeze when coming from that direction; in winter, when protection is needed, the trees are on the wrong side again.

The Quapaw mission school building is well located, is distant from the agency about 12 miles, and arranged to accommodate 100 boarding scholars. The Seneca, Wyandotte, and Shawnee school building is distant from the agency 4 miles; with some additions now contracted for it will comfortably accommodate 100 scholars. The Peoria schoolhouse is a fine building, is intended for a day school, is about 10 miles from the agency. The Miami school building is 20 miles distant from the agency, is intended for a day school; as is also the Modoc school-house, which is 2 miles from the agency.

The statistics this year will show much less done by Indians than last year's report, as in that all cultivation upon the reservations and breaking done is reported as Indian labor, while this year's report is intended to give a correct statement of work done by both red and white. The statistical report is forwarded herewith.

I am, very respectfully,

J. M. HAWORTH,
*Special United States Indian Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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SAC AND FOX AGENCY, INDIAN TERRITORY,
*August* 1, 1879.

SIR: Agreeably with the request contained in your circular letter dated June 18, 1879, I respectfully submit my report of the affairs of this agency and the condition of the tribes under the control of the agent whom I found in charge, which embraces those of the *Sac and Fox of the Mississippi*, the *Absentee Shawnees*, the *Mexican Kickapoos*, and the *Citizen Pottawatomies*.

The Sac and Fox number 423; Absentee Shawnees, 660, in addition to about 60 of the Black Bob Shawnees who have lately joined that portion located on the government strip of land west of the Kickapoos; Mexican Kickapoos, 390; Pottawatomies, 250; total, 1,783.

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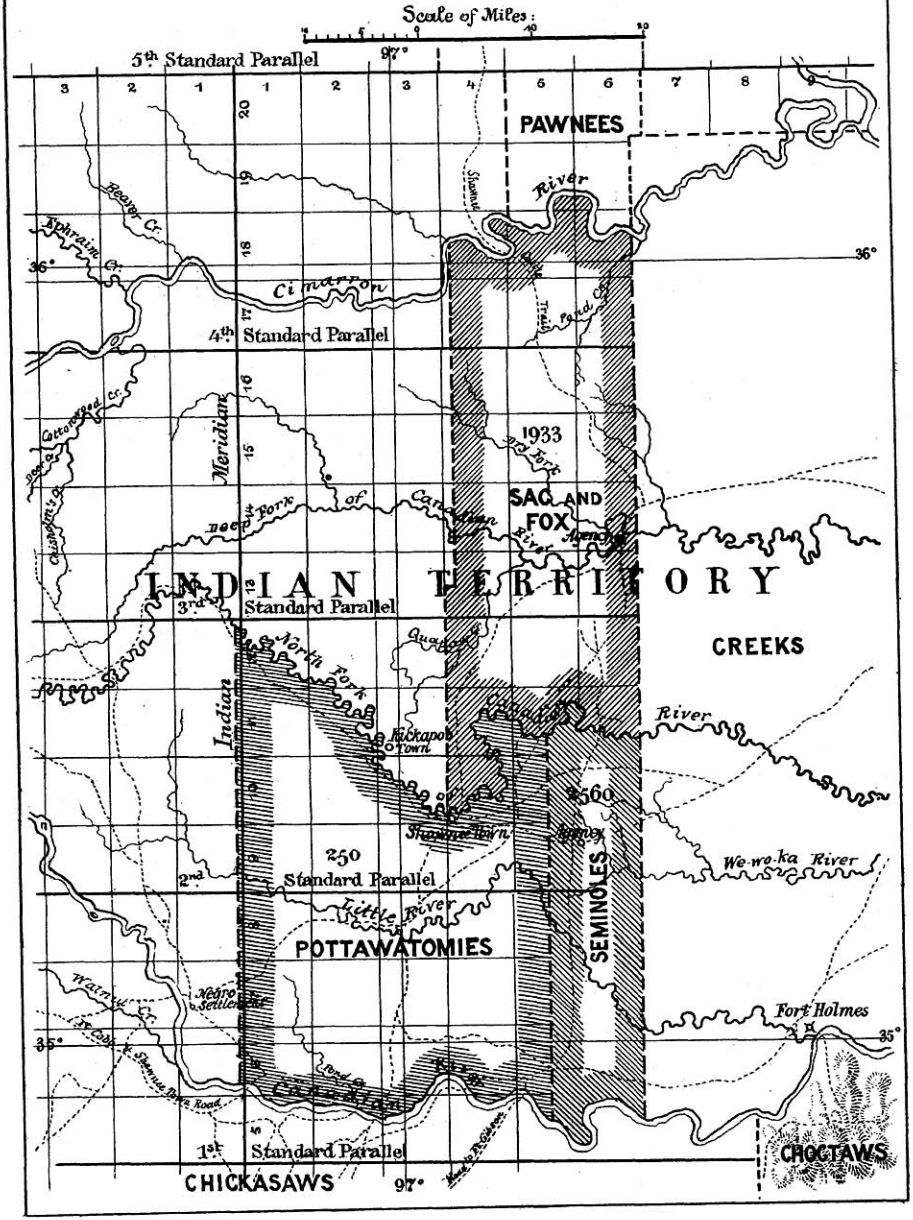
*Sac and Fox Reserve* 479667 Acres, *Treaty Feb. 18. 1867*, Vol. 15, p. 495. Sac and Fox Agency
*Seminole* " 200000 " " *March 21. 1866*, Vol. 14, p. 755. Union "
*Pottawatomie* " 575877 " " *Feb. 17. 1867*, Vol. 15, p. 531. Sac and Fox "
*Act of Congress May 23. 1872*, Vol. 17, p. 159



### THE SAC AND FOX OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

This tribe are a progressive people and give much attention to agricultural pursuits, and are at present paying special regard to the cultivation of the different products of the soil; besides, a commendable spirit of emulation exists among them as to whom shall raise the best cattle. They are averse to tilling the soil themselves, having a natural repugnance to labor, but hire their work of plowing, sawing, and cultivating done by skilled white farmers, whom they employ and pay liberally. This seeming unwillingness on the part of the Sac and Fox people to engage in industry is not from habits of indolence; it is solely because they regard themselves to the manor born and lords of all they survey. They, however, carefully note the progress of the farmer, and lend a hand to help when occasion requires; and having a large annuity in money paid to them semi-annually, they consider themselves rich enough without labor. When the correct path is mapped out for them by reasoning, they cheerfully accept the right.

Their advance in improvements has been very commendable, having during the past year built five substantial log houses. The acreage of cultivation has been largely increased, and had the season been more propitious, they would have had quite an excess of grain to dispose of. As it is, there is a complete failure of crops, owing to continued drought, which will somewhat inconvenience them, and will have the effect of inducing a further enlargement of fields for the coming season, as nearly all improvements they make proceed from sales of their surplus grain and vegetables.

The increase in stock (cattle and hogs) has shown a marked feature of the past year, and it has been estimated by themselves that had there been corn sufficient they could have exported pork in place of having to import it.

### EDUCATION.

The Indians of this agency have anxiously sought to invest their children with the principles of moral and religious culture, and the best evidence shown in this regard is the fact that $5,000 is set apart by them annually out of their annuity fund for the support of a manual-labor school.

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### AGRICULTURE.

The Sac and Fox Indians are very desirous of having good crops, and keep their farms in commendable condition, but it is not an easy matter to make them understand that they must ultimately rely on the goodness of Providence, aided by their own efforts, in producing the seasonable crops out of the soil for their future sustenance. They reason from analogy that rich men do not work, consequently they hire skilled farmers who labor for them. Their young men are imbued with the same spirit of independence, and follow in the same train of thought as their fathers, and prefer engaging in the rural pastimes of their race, without a care for the morrow. Many of these young men have been taught in the manual labor mission school, but the missionary labors under which they were educated have proved unavailing, and they have all, with few exceptions, returned to their normal condition and uncivilized ways, wearing their blankets and daubing their features with paint in hideous phantoms.

### SHAWNEES.

The Indians of this tribe have a strong desire to see their children advance in civilization. Their school is at present conducted by a competent lady teacher, who is assisted by a seamstress, laundress and others, and their efforts show that assiduous and careful attention is paid to their spiritual and temporal welfare. There are 56 children of both sexes in the Shawneetown school—30 boys and 26 girls—and applications have been presented by Indian parents for 20 more, who cannot be accommodated for want of room. That portion of the building in which the female children sleep is comfortable, but that in which the boys are is in a dilapidated condition; and on my representation of its condition, the honorable Secretary of the Interior, by advice of the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs, allowed a liberal sum for the repairs of this school. There are no bath-tubs, so essential to health in these institutions. The cooking-stove is too small and nearly worn out, and as there are 65 persons to be provided for, it is indispensably necessary that a good cooking-range be purchased for them at an early opportunity.

### THE MEXICAN KICKAPOOS.

These Indians, numbering 390 souls, were originally residents of Mexico, and there are now about 200 of them at the Pottawatomie Agency, Rossville, Kans.; also about

100 in Mexico. Those of them who are at present on the Kickapoo Reserve, 35 miles southwest of this agency, are progressing very favorably in the cultivation of the soil, rearing stock, hogs, &c., &c. One of their chiefs, named Mesh-ket-toe, a man of very advanced ideas, and favorable to education, called on me the 26th of December, 1878, to have an interview, with the view of stating some grievances and making the wants of his people known. The substance of the complaint was that they had a great desire to engage in agricultural pursuits, but they needed the assistance of the Father in Washington to provide them with agricultural implements, cows and calves, &c., and that they had made repeated application to the late agent, but no notice had been taken of their wants. On my visit to the Office of Indian Affairs in January last, I opened my memorandum book and showed to the honorable Commissioner the reasonable demands of these poor people. I am pleased to say the honorable Secretary of the Interior gave them a humane consideration, and allowed the purchase of all the articles enumerated, viz, plows, wagons, harness, mowing-machine, seeds, cows and calves, and all necessary farming implements, most of which they now possess.

The reservation on which these Indians are located is adjoining the lands of the Shawnees, who hold friendly intercourse with them, and a spirit of agricultural enterprise is manifest in both tribes. The soil being a rich alluvial deposit, or what is termed bottom-land, is very easily cultivated, yielding good and abundant crops. This season being an unusually warm and dry one, the corn crop will be very short, and it is feared that the hay season will also fail in both reservations.

The neighborhood of those two reservations is infested with a gang of outlaws who locate between the Pottawatomie Reserve and Kickapoo, committing murder and robbery on defenseless citizens of both places; they run off the stock of farmers, and when not engaged in this, they are selling whisky, which is brought in by them and traded to the Indians for ponies, &c., which has a very demoralizing influence. The band comprise some of the worst characters that can be found; many of them are fugitives from justice, and find the Indian country a safe refuge from the officers of the law. There are over 100 of these lawless characters, well armed with Spencer and Winchester rifles, besides Colt revolvers, and are a terror to the law-abiding people of the surrounding country. It is hoped that the authorities will deal with these creatures as they deserve.

### INDIAN POLICE.

The policy lately introduced by the Office of Indian Affairs in organizing a corps of young Indians as policemen has been attended with good results. The pay, rations, and clothing furnished to them is an evidence of encouragement, and affords them a hope of reliance on their own efforts towards civilization and self-government. I would respectfully recommend that those of their corps who have horses may be allowed additional compensation for the use of them when specially detailed to go a distance of miles from the agency, and to be furnished with arms.

### PEDDLERS.

I respectfully call the attention of the department to the fact that a number of this class of people make a regular business of bringing bacon, flour, chickens, and other produce to this and other agencies and trading or selling them for ponies, cattle, &c., to the Indians. This would seem to be legitimate, but it is known that their ostensible object is the sale of whisky, which they conceal before they come to the agency, and sell it to the Indians in the night-time. Section 2133 of the United States Statutes provides that "any person, other than an Indian, who shall attempt to reside in the Indian country as a trader or to introduce goods, or to trade therein, without such license, shall forfeit all merchandise offered for sale to the Indians or found in his possession, and, moreover, shall be liable to a penalty of five hundred dollars." If a circular letter was issued to prohibit this class of people from trading at agencies, it would be a source of benefit to the Indians.

### SANITARY.

The health of the Sac and Fox and others of this agency has been very good, although the extreme heat has had a depressing influence. This was counterbalanced in a measure by cool and refreshing breezes night and morning, and the several wells in and around the agency having afforded a bountiful supply of excellent water, there has been less mortality than in previous years.

Inclosed I respectfully submit the statistical information called for in your letter of June 18th, 1879.

Very respectfully,

J. HERTFORD,
*Acting Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.