

include their fisheries; thirdly, there are no root-grounds on that side of the river, and an insufficiency of farming-land whereby they could subsist themselves by agriculture. Until such time as they may be able to cultivate the soil, the different fisheries and root-grounds now frequented by them must be their main source of subsistence.

As to whether or not their objections to the reservation are well founded, you will be able to decide from your recent careful and patient examination. For myself I am free to say that I deem the reservation, as now defined, entirely insufficient for the number of Indians belonging to this agency, and would give my reasons more in detail did I not know that you are now thoroughly acquainted with it, and in your report will set forth its merits and demerits more forcibly than I can possibly do.

At the council held here on the 11th and 12th of August, by General Shanks and yourself, the Indians renewed their objections to the reservation, and asked that Colville Valley be given them for a reserve. The propriety of acceding to their wishes in that respect is now the all-important question, both to the Indians and the white settlers of the valley, which I hope will be eventually settled to their mutual satisfaction. For many reasons, which I shall soon make the subject of a special report, I would earnestly recommend that a commission be appointed to assess the value of the property of the white settlers of this valley, with a view of its being set apart as an Indian reserve.

The unsettled question of the location of this agency, the want of agency-buildings, and the insufficiency of means at my disposal, have seriously impeded the anticipated advancement of the Indians under my charge; yet, under your directions, much has been done for their advancement. A day-school for Indian children was organized January 1, 1873, and placed under the instruction of Father Tosi, at St. Frances Regis Mission, in Colville Valley. The average attendance was forty-five. The progress made much exceeded my expectation. The children generally manifested a desire to learn, and Father Tosi and his assistant were zealous and untiring in their efforts. The school was discontinued March 31 by reason of the annual visit of the Indians and their families to the root-grounds. I would state in this connection that I have recently established a boarding and industrial school, as directed by yourself, and placed the same in charge of Sisters of Charity, the Catholic Fathers having kindly proffered the necessary buildings for temporary use of the school. The school has not been sufficiently long in operation to warrant extended remarks; yet, from present indications, I am sanguine of its ultimate success.

Much difficulty has been experienced in inducing the Indians to agricultural pursuits. They are unwilling to inclose farms while the possibility of their being at any day removed from them exists. And further, I have been unable to provide with proper implements and seed all who are disposed to farm; notwithstanding, some advancement in this particular has been made; between three and four thousand bushels of wheat have been harvested, and from fifteen hundred to two thousand bushels of potatoes have been cultivated, besides sufficient hay to subsist their horses and cattle during the winter. They have also cut and corded about five hundred cords of wood, for which they have received one dollar and fifty cents per cord.

The Indians of this agency, with the exception of the San Poels, are peaceable and well-disposed, and have made considerable advancement in Christianity and civilization. There are quite a number of thrifty and intelligent farmers among them, and they show more disposition to work and make their living by the arts of civilized life than any Indians I have met with on this coast during a residence of more than twenty years. The Colvilles have this year built for themselves a large church of hewn logs, capable of accommodating nearly a thousand persons, and they take much pride in their handiwork. The San Poel Indians have a religion of their own, and are under the influence of men called dreamers. Although never in open hostility to the whites, they have never been disposed to cultivate friendly relations with them, and have uniformly refused to accept presents from the Government agents, or hold any intercourse with them. The wants of the sick and destitute have been as liberally administered to as the limited means at my disposal would allow.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. SIMNS,
Special Indian Agent.

General R. H. MILROY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Olympia, Wash. Ter.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit this, my third annual report.

The Indians on this reservation during the past year have made considerable progress in the arts of civilized life. They have been farming quite extensively, with fair

yields, except the potato-crop, which is almost an entire failure. The loss of this crop will go hard with them, as the potato is their main vegetable. They have an abundance of hay for their stock and the most of it very well housed.

Farming on this reservation has never been carried on as extensively as it should have been, considering the large amount of really good farming land. I have repeatedly urged upon them the advantages of large fields well fenced and properly cultivated. They have invariably answered by saying that if their reservation was surveyed so that each Indian could have his piece of land they would then feel like going to work in earnest and clear up their land and farm like white men. Now that the reservation is being surveyed and a prospect that each Indian or family will have a portion of land set apart for them, I have strong faith that they will be better satisfied and more industrious than heretofore; and I am confident that many of them will make successful farmers and good citizens. Their constant theme of conversation for the past year has been the survey of their reservation, and now that it is about being consummated they are making arrangements for building good houses, clearing and fencing large fields, and in fact begin farming in earnest.

The census taken on the 7th of September shows a population of five hundred and seventy-seven persons, being an increase of one hundred and twenty-seven in the past two years.

For want of suitable school-buildings and proper appliances the school for the past year has not been very successful, but now that a large and substantial boarding-school building is nearly finished and in a very desirable place, with plenty of good land for a school-farm, and the Rev. G. W. Sloan as teacher, I feel confident of a good showing in the future. In view of the fact that the employes' buildings on this reservation are situated on low flat land, subject to frequent overflow in the winter, and the fact that they are old, rotten, and entirely unfit to be inhabited, I would recommend an appropriation sufficiently large to put up new buildings on the site selected for that purpose adjoining the new school-house.

The health of the Indians on this reservation during the past year has been generally good. For further account of their sanitary condition I will refer you to the report of the resident physician herewith inclosed. I would also respectfully refer you to the recommendation contained in his report. In the physician's opinion as to the necessity of a hospital I fully concur.

The number of Indians (including the Nisquallies) that look to this physician for treatment is between seven and eight hundred. In view of this fact I would respectfully recommend that medicines be furnished by the Department for this reservation.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BYRON BARLOW,

Farmer in charge Puyallup Reservation.

Gen. R. H. MILROY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, Washington Territory.

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CHEHALIS RESERVATION.

SIR: I submit to you my report for the year of 1873. We have this year built a boarding-house for the Indian school, 28 by 46 feet; * * * * *
 * * * * * barn for hay, 35 by 45 feet; built an office for the doctor, 12 by 14
 * * * * * feet; 22 desks for school and 40 benches for same, and a black-board; made 12 large
 * * * * * gates and 5 smaller ones; made 25 rods of picketfence around yard and garden; also,
 * * * * * built 250 rods of rail-fence, grubbed and broke 25 acres of new ground for Govern-
 * * * * * ment.

The Indians of this reservation are well pleased with the fruits of their labor. There is not a more moral and industrious tribe of Indians in Washington Territory. * *

Rev. J. F. Devore established a branch of the Methodist Episcopal Church here some four months since, and the Indians are now, a majority of them, taking a deep interest in religious affairs, and are becoming, very fast, good practical men and women.

The Chehalis reservation, is naturally adapted to farming and manufacturing, having 4,500 acres of good land, abounding with splendid fir, cedar, oak, ash, and alder, with a saw-mill to convert its fir and cedar into lumber; mechanical shops to work its oak into wagons and plows, and its ash into fork-handles, its alder into ax-handles, its cedar into buckets, churris, and wash-tubs.

The reservation is surrounded with large fields of magnificent coal and iron, making it naturally a manufacturing point. Our nearest point for lumber is 25 miles, and our nearest wagon and smith shop is 25 miles. Taking the Chehalis Valley, with its rich mineral and large body of land and its splendid timber, with agricultural shops on this reservation, will in a short time become one of the most prolific valleys west of the Rocky Mountains.