

road of permanent peace and prosperity. The Indians complain of having their agents changed so often. Permanence in this relation, when you can secure good agents, is very desirable for the welfare of the Indians. A stranger, unaccustomed to the frontier life and the habits and customs of the Indian character, has a difficult task to supply the place of one who has acquired the confidence and respect of the tribe. I can see no need of recommending any changes. My relations with the Department are so satisfactory to me and the tribe, and the modes of treatment so well adapted, when properly applied and carried out, that they cannot fail to secure gradually the desired results.

Experience has shown that my recommendation respecting the military force on the reservation was well made. The small guard of ten mounted soldiers and a non-commissioned officer, for protection of property, has proven all-sufficient for the police service of this agency, and works to entire satisfaction. Our relations with the military are of the most friendly nature; Captain Kauffman, commanding Fort McRae, (forty-five miles distant,) from whose command my guard is furnished, rendering all the assistance and co-operation desired when Indians are disposed to leave the reservation. The entire community feel a sense of security for life and property that they never before have felt.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SHAW,
United States Indian Agent.

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

REPORTS OF AGENTS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK INDIAN AGENCY,
Forestville, N. Y., October, 15, 1875.

SIR: In making my sixth annual report, I have the honor to state that the whole number of Indian children residing upon the eight reservations in this agency number 2,341, of whom 1,737 are between the ages of five and twenty-one years; 290 live upon the Allegany reservation, 582 on Cattaraugus, 31 on Cornplanter, 52 on Oneida, 126 at Onondaga, 356 at Saint Regis, 117 at Tonawanda, and 183 on Tuscarora reservation. The whole number of Indian children attending the thirty schools in the agency during some portion of the school year ending September 30, 1875, was 1,174. The schools were taught on an average of thirty-two weeks during the year, and the average daily attendance was 555.1. Of these schools, one is a day-school on Cornplanter reservation, and is supported by the State of Pennsylvania at an annual expense of about \$350. One on the Onondaga reservation, New York, is also a day-school, and is supported by the Episcopalians, at an annual expense of about \$600. The boarding-school at Allegany reservation, New York, at which there has been an average attendance of 24 Indian children during the year, is wholly supported by the Society of Friends at Philadelphia, at an annual expense of about \$2,700, exclusive of use of farm and farm-products connected therewith. The other twenty-seven schools in the agency are mainly supported by the State of New York, at a yearly expense of about \$9,000, of which sum the Indians pay about \$550. All are day-schools except the one connected with the Thomas Orphan Asylum on Cattaraugus reservation, which is a boarding-school, under excellent discipline and management, with two teachers, and an average attendance of about 80 students. These twenty-seven State schools are under charge of six local superintendents, who are appointed by the State superintendent of schools, who make quarterly school reports to me, and employ the teachers. Owing to the small compensation, of about \$5 per week, paid to teachers, and the difficulty of obtaining suitable boarding-places near the schools, the teachers are generally poorly qualified. About one-fourth of the teachers in these schools have been, for a few years, Indians, and the Indian teachers who have been properly trained for their work have usually succeeded well, and are to be preferred to white teachers. The appropriations heretofore made from the fund for civilization of Indians for education of Indian teachers for these schools have produced good results, and it is very desirable that the same should be continued.

In June last a census was taken of the Indians in this agency, except those on Cornplanter reservation in Pennsylvania. This census was taken by competent enumerators, especially appointed for the purpose by the secretary of the State of New York, and contains valuable, and, in the main, reliable statistics of education of the Indians and of their agricultural products. I have examined these census-returns, and availed myself of the information therein contained in making this report. A like census was taken by the State of New York in 1865.

The present population of the Indians in this agency is 4,955; an increase in ten years of 866, and in twenty years of 911. Of the present Indian population of the agency, 59 are over seventy years of age, 29 under eighty, 5 over ninety, 1 one hundred and one years old; and Mary Jacobs, of Onondaga reservation, died the past year at the advanced age of one hundred and twelve years.

The Indians on Oneida reservation number 25 less than in 1865; but this apparent

decrease is owing to their selling out and removing. There is an increase on each of the other reservations.

The New York portion of the Saint Regis tribe, according to the State census of 1865, numbered 413; they now number 737, of whom 441 are under the age of twenty-one years. This increase is quite remarkable. They receive no annuities from the United States in money or goods; only a State annuity of about \$3 *per capita*. Their reservation is less fertile than any of the others in the agency, and is in a colder climate, being upon the Saint Lawrence River, in the extreme northern part of the State. The Saint Regis Indians are descendants of the Mohawks of New York, whose language they speak. Under the influence of some French Catholic missionaries, their ancestors migrated from the valley of the Mohawk in 1677, and settled at Caughnawaga, near Montreal, in Canada. A colony from the latter place, in 1760, migrated to Saint Regis, on the Saint Lawrence. They are named from Jean Francis Saint Regis, a French ecclesiastic who died in 1690. They are mostly Roman Catholics. Their location is isolated, and, in that respect, favorable to improvement. Only six deaths are reported on this reservation during the past year, of which four were from consumption, one of hernia, and one from child-birth.

The 4,955 Indians of the New York agency own 86,366 acres of fertile lands, on nine reservations, of which 22,989 are cultivated by them and under fence. They live in 899 dwelling-houses, of the estimated cash value of \$133,579; of which 273 are frame, 313 plank, 290 block and logs, 21 board, 2 of stone, and 1 brick. They raised, in 1874, 60,461 bushels of corn, 49,229 bushels of oats, 12,906 bushels of wheat, 57,648 bushels of potatoes, of peas 1,514 bushels, beans 1,266 bushels, and of hay 3,490 tons. They milked 712 cows, made 28,369 pounds of butter, and slaughtered 108,958 pounds of pork. The cash-value of their stock is estimated at \$134,137, farming-implements at \$56,103, and of farm-buildings, not dwelling-houses, at \$56,103. They have growing 15,791 apple-trees, and raised last year 6,844 bushels of apples, besides peaches, pears, and grapes of choice varieties in considerable quantities. They have held annual fairs the present year for exhibition of stock, grain, and vegetables, upon Cattaraugus, Tonawanda, and Onondaga reservations. They cultivate 7,511 more acres of land than in 1865, and since that time their wealth in individual property has nearly doubled.

Of the 1,685 Indian youths in the agency between the ages of five and twenty-one years, about 1,000 can read and speak the English language, and of adults about 500.

There are twelve church-buildings on the reservations, of the value of \$22,400, capable of seating 3,500 persons. Of the churches, four are Methodist Episcopal, four Baptist, three Presbyterian, and one Protestant Episcopal. The number of church-members is 1,034. The Catholics of Saint Regis reservation attend church in Canada. Of the twelve clergymen and missionaries in charge of these churches, six are Indians.

Rev. Asher Wright, who had been for forty years a missionary of the American Board of Foreign Missions among the Senecas of this agency, died at the mission-house, on the Cattaraugus reservation, in April last. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College, a gentleman of fine literary attainments, and most thoroughly devoted to his work as a missionary. He translated a book of hymns and the four gospels of the New Testament into the Seneca language, and was engaged at the time of his death in compiling a Seneca dictionary, which he left unfinished. He was a skillful physician, and used to great advantage his knowledge of medicine as auxiliary to his missionary work. His services as physician to the Indians were gratuitous, and he supplied them with medicines from his limited missionary stipend, and died poor. The first supply of medicines furnished by the Government was received only a few days before his death. In my opinion, the importance of furnishing medical treatment and supplies to Indians, in the work of their civilization, cannot be overestimated.

There is a growing desire among the Indians of this agency to become citizens, and to own their lands in severalty and in fee. Especially is this true of the young men. But the Senecas of the Cattaraugus and Allegany reservations will strenuously resist any effort to make them citizens and allot their lands, so long as the claim of the Ogden Land Company, or its assigns, rests as a cloud upon their title to these reservations, for the reasons stated in my annual report of 1873, to which I again respectfully beg leave to call attention.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. SHERMAN, *Agent*.

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

REPORTS OF AGENTS IN NEVADA.

SOUTHEAST NEVADA AGENCY,
Moapa River Reserve, September 11, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of affairs at this agency for the year ending September 30, 1875:

On my arrival at the Pi-Ute agency last November the outlook of affairs was gloomy in the extreme. A large deficiency existed from the previous year. The creditors of the