

*Aggregate of foregoing table—Continued.*

CLASS V.—VIOLENT DISEASES AND DEATHS.		Sprains .....	343	Punctured wound .....	94
		Dislocation .....	36	Poisoning .....	57
		Frost-bite .....	99	Other diseases of this order .....	51
Order 1.—WOUNDS, INJURIES, AND ACCIDENTS.		Simple fracture (not gunshot) .....	77	Order 2.—HOMICIDE .....	11
		Compound fracture (not gunshot) .....	5	Order 3.—SUICIDE .....	6
Burns and scalds .....	627	Gunshot wound .....	45	Order 4.—EXECUTION OF SENTENCE .....	1
Bruises .....	534	Lacerated wound .....	167		
Concussion of the brain ..	4				
Drowning .....	3				

GRAND TOTALS.

Taken sick or wounded during year, males, 46,287; females, 38,541 .....	84,828
Remaining under treatment from last year .....	1,837
Deaths, males over five years, 427; under five, 405* .....	832
Deaths, females over five years, 205; under five, 246* .....	451
Recovered, males, 45,266; females, 37,726 .....	82,992
Remaining under treatment June 30 .....	2,390
Births, males, 932; females, 930* .....	1,862
Births, Indians, 1,719; half-breeds, 115; whites, 28 .....	1,862
Vaccinated, successfully, 4,076; unsuccessfully, 1,906 .....	5,981

SHOSHONE AGENCY, WYOMING TERRITORY,  
August 14, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit my second annual report since resuming charge of this agency.

THE RESERVATION

is situated in the northwestern part of Wyoming Territory, and embraces an area of about thirty by fifty miles; is bounded on the south and west by the Wind River Mountains, by Owl Creek Mountains on the north, and rolling hills and high tablelands on the east. The reservation embraces about three-eighths rugged, rocky mountains, partly wooded; three-eighths table-land and rolling hills, covered with sage brush, too high for irrigation; one-eighth table-land susceptible of irrigation, and one-eighth bottom land, mostly tillable. The two Wind Rivers and a number of small streams flow through the reservation, and, uniting below, form the Big Horn River.

HISTORICAL.

The Shoshones have occupied this country since 1781, and it was set apart for their reservation by treaty made at Fort Bridger in 1868. By request of the Government and consent of the Shoshones, the Northern Arapahoes were located here without treaty rights.

POPULATION.

The Shoshones number at this time 778 on the agency and receiving Government support, and 150 to 200 that are roaming and not counted; the Arapahoes, 952; making a total of 1,730 Indians on the reservation.

VAGABOND INDIANS.

The above mentioned nomadic Shoshones rendezvous at Fort Bridger, Evanston, and intermediate stations on the Union Pacific Railroad, their object being to get whisky and avoid labor, parading in rags and filth before the gaze of the traveling public. They are a disgrace to the service, and should be compelled to live on the reservation and be subject to discipline.

CONDUCT OF INDIANS.

The Indians occupying this reservation are quiet and peaceably disposed, making but few complaints, although much abused by horse and cattle thieves, as well as whisky sellers. Owing to shortage of supplies, especially beef, they have to hunt a

\* This table shows only births and deaths reported by agency physicians. For births and deaths as reported by agents, including agencies where there are no physicians, see table, pages 266 to 284.

part of the winter season (a treaty stipulation). Last winter they were quite successful, bringing in robes and furs amounting to about \$15,000 in value. The greater part of this money is expended in purchasing flour, bacon, coffee, sugar, and other necessaries not fully supplied by Government. The same may be said of money received for freighting.

Hunting *versus* civilization destroys a love for home and its comforts, prevents the keeping of milk-cows, raising fowls and domestic animals; keeps up a preference for the old tent life and habits, also careless indifference for property. But until they can be supplied by Government and their own exertions with the necessaries of life, I see no way of averting it. Nature has decided the amount of a ration, and that is just what an Indian will have; if he cannot get it one way he will another. He will feed his family as long as he has a cartridge, and so would an Indian Agent or Member of Congress, and both are supposed to be honest men. But to do my Indians justice, there is no evidence that they committed any outrages on cattle or other property last winter for they had all the buffalo and other game they could consume, and were peaceable and quiet.

#### RELIGION.

Their religious training has in the past been almost neglected. The Rev. John Roberts, of the Episcopal Church, arrived at the agency on the 13th of February last. He is a young, energetic man, and has rendered efficient service in the school of which he is now principal. A church building in the near future is in prospect.

#### FARMING.

Two-thirds of the men are willing to farm and are anxious to do so. Their efforts this year have not been crowned with as much success as desired, owing to a very late, wet spring and want of knowledge in planting. If a competent teacher could be employed for each twenty-five or thirty families for one season, and devote his whole time to teaching them, it would be a saving to the Department in the end.

A suitable engine for the grist mill has been purchased and is now on the ground and will be ready for operation this fall.

#### FREIGHTING.

The Indians have made two trips to Rawlins Station, on the Union Pacific Railroad, distance 150 miles, and will make one more in September. The last train numbered sixty-nine wagons and the same number of Indian drivers, with one white train-master, bringing 16,000 pounds of freight in good order. White men could have done no better.

#### POLICE.

Organizing a police force has been stoutly resisted by Washakie, chief of the Shoshones, but he consented after he saw that it could not be prevented. A good set of young men has been enlisted and no doubt will do good service.

#### EDUCATION.

Teaching on the day-school system has not been a success at this agency, as Indian families are, many of them, at too great a distance from the school, but by crowding the employes into close quarters and converting two of their houses into boarding and lodging houses for school purposes, I commenced a small boarding-school for boys on the 10th of March, 1883. This school is under the auspices of Rev. John Roberts and has been in every respect as successful as could be expected.

A contract has been let and foundation is now being laid for a large and complete boarding-school house to accommodate one hundred boys and girls. Under good management there is no good reason why this training school cannot be made a success. The proximity of home, restlessness of children under restraint, and want of parental authority are all obstacles in the way. But the parents are anxious for the school and are strongly pledged to support it. A firm and determined management will no doubt overcome all impediments.

In conclusion, I have the honor to thank you for the improvements you have ordered for the benefit of the service at this agency.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES IRWIN,  
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.