

1844

and exposed to; yet, within a year, they have destroyed three oxen and nine head of cattle, besides pigs, sheep, and poultry—taking full two-thirds of our entire domestic animals, except horses, which they have not molested. That the fear of punishment would be as effectual to restrain them as other people from such trespasses is manifest, from the fact that, in the mean time, they have not knowingly killed any of Mr. Riville's cattle; and the more intelligent men say the reason is, that the young men refrain from doing it because they are afraid Riville's sons will strike them.

The amount of whiskey brought into this neighborhood is increasing rapidly, with its attendant evils. It seems, from what the Indians tell us, that the efforts of Government to prevent intoxicating drinks from being taken up the Missouri are proving efficacious, which encourages us to look to the same source to arrest the deadly tide which flows up the St. Peter's. Much of it is paid for, in the first place, by the annuities which the Minda-Wakanton Sioux receive from Government. If it should be considered that the evils arising from it are about the same, whether taken into the country by Indians or white men, and suitable punishment inflicted on all, irrespective of color, who are found having it in the Indian country, it might go far to arrest the evil, could the annuities of individuals known to trade in it be stopped.

The buffalo, after an absence of more than twenty years from this section of country, have returned in large herds. This affords the Indians a very seasonable supply of excellent food at present; but the traders say that, by turning off their attention from every other means of living, it will prove an injury to them; and in this opinion it is probable the traders are correct.

A great flood in the St. Peter's, which kept most of the land which has heretofore been planted in this neighborhood under water throughout the months of April and May, prevented many from planting at the proper season. About twenty families, who made new fields in good season, have prospect of excellent crops.

The books published at the expense of the board of commissioners for foreign missions and American Bible society, and printed under the superintendence of Mr. Riggs, in the years 1842 and 1843, have done much to interest and profit our schools the past year.

(15.)

DUCK CREEK, W. T., September 12, 1844.

DEAR SIR: Your communication of the 6th instant was duly received. In answer to it, I will now report the condition of the school and mission under my charge, and give a statement showing, as nearly as I can, the condition of this tribe. The school averages 40 scholars. About 100 attend, but not regularly; one-half of this number are females. Instruction is given in the common branches of education. The children are also catechised in their own language, and trained in the doctrines and usages of the church, which numbers 120 devout communicants at the altar, among whom are a majority of the chiefs of the nation. We have a neat Gothic church, erected at the expense of the Indians. It has been enclosed the past year by a good substantial board fence, and the grounds about the

samo have been improved and beautified by setting out trees and shrubbery. This is mentioned, not boastingly, but simply from a desire to place before you all the evidence I can of their advancement. We have also a convenient parsonage and school house, both erected at the cost of the nation. Their conduct in these things is deserving of praise.

This mission is under the patronage of the domestic committee of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States of America, by whom it is supported at an annual expenditure of \$550. From this sum are paid the salaries of the superintendent, the schoolmaster, and the interpreter.

On Duck creek, the place of their location, the Oneidas have two saw mills, one grist mill, and one blacksmith shop. The quantity of land under cultivation is 2,213 acres. When it is taken into the account, that this land was covered with a heavy growth of timber, it will convince any one that not a little labor has been bestowed to bring it to its present productive state.

By a census recently taken under my direction, I am enabled to place before you the following additional facts, which may not be uninteresting to the friends of Indian civilization :

Number of families	-	-	-	-	-	150
Number of souls	-	-	-	-	-	792
Frame houses	-	-	-	-	-	20
Block houses	-	-	-	-	-	43
Log houses	-	-	-	-	-	84
Frame barns	-	-	-	-	-	51
Log barns	-	-	-	-	-	38
Wagons	-	-	-	-	-	30
Sleighs	-	-	-	-	-	87
Ploughs	-	-	-	-	-	69
Harrows	-	-	-	-	-	51
Fanning mills	-	-	-	-	-	15
Threshing machine	-	-	-	-	-	1
Horses	-	-	-	-	-	104
Oxen	-	-	-	-	-	200
Cows	-	-	-	-	-	181
Calves and young cattle	-	-	-	-	-	110
Hogs	-	-	-	-	-	561
Domestic fowls	-	-	-	-	-	1,298
Sheep	-	-	-	-	-	5
Clocks	-	-	-	-	-	17

It will be seen, by comparing this with the census taken two years since, that the Oneidas increase in number—there being forty-seven persons more now than at that time.

I am, sir, with much respect, your friend and most obedient servant,
 SOLOMON DAVIS,
 Missionary to the Oneidas.

Colonel DAVID JONES,
 U. S. Sub-Agent, Green Bay.

(19.)

ONEIDA NATION,

Near Green Bay, W. T., September 10, 1844.

DEAR SIR: I here present you with a report of the school taught among the Oneida Indians, under the patronage of the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the year ending September 1, 1843.

The amount expended, and for services teaching, are as follows:

July, 1843, 1½ dozen spelling books at \$1 50 per dozen	-	\$2 25
6 months' services for a man teaching school, at \$18 per month, including board	-	108 00

Whole amount of expenditure for the past year	-	-	110 25
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Number of scholars taught 28—males 15, females 13.

One of the number is 5 years old, 25 between 7 and 12, and 2 are 14; 14 read and spell in spelling, 13 take lessons in reading, 2 in arithmetic, 13 in writing. The English language only has been taught.

The scholars have all made respectable improvement, with as few exceptions as are usually found among white children of the same age.

Yours, respectfully,

H. R. COLEMAN, *Teacher.*

DAVID JONES, Esq.,

Indian Agent at Green Bay, Wisconsin Territory.

The above report, or substance of it, was made last November, to the agent.

H. R. C.

ONEIDA NATION,

Near Green Bay, September 10, 1844.

DEAR SIR: I here present you with a report of a school taught by me among the Oneida Indians, under the patronage of the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church, for the year ending September 1, 1844.

The following expenses have been incurred, viz:

December, 1843, 6 spelling books at 12½ cents each	-	-	\$0 75
6 slates at 18½ cents each, 1 bunch pencils at 25 cents	-	-	1 37
4 quires writing paper at 25 cents per quire	-	-	1 00
2 bunches quills at 25 cents each, 3 inkstands at 10 cents each	-	-	80
1 bottle ink at 16 cents, paid for mending stove \$1 50	-	-	1 66
1 dozen lights of glass at 75 cents, 2 pounds of putty at 25 cents	-	-	1 00
7 months' services teaching, at \$18 per month, including board	-	-	126 00

Whole amount of expenditure for the past year	-	-	132 58
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Number of scholars 32—males 16, females 16.

Ages.—Five years and under, 4; between five and ten, 22; between ten and fifteen, 6.

Studies.—Arithmetic, 9; writing, 13; reading, 8; spelling, 13; letters, 5. The scholars live with their parents, and their attendance is not regular;

but, considering the time they do attend, their improvement is respectable, with some exceptions, as is always the case in every school. The English language only has been taught.

Yours, respectfully,
HENRY R. COLEMAN, *Teacher.*

DAVID JONES, Esq.,
Indian Agent at Green Bay, Wisconsin Territory.

(20.)

IOWA AND SACS MISSION, September 30, 1844.

SIR: Time, in its rapid and ceaseless progress, has brought us to the period in this year at which it is necessary, in compliance with given instructions, to submit to you a report of the school, together with some things of general interest connected with our station. The school remains much as heretofore. We have between fifty and sixty children of a suitable age to receive instruction, but who, though they manifest no hostility to learning, are nevertheless so indolent, and they put so low an estimate on learning, that, in their present situation, they cannot be induced to make the application necessary to advance rapidly in learning.

¶ Owing to their irregular attendance at school, and the impossibility of exercising, as they are now situated, a necessary government over them, together with an expected change in our mode of teaching, the school has not received that attention which it otherwise would, and which it did receive in former seasons. Several years' experience has led us to hope that a boarding school, conducted on correct principles, would be a great aid in our work; and after much delay, on account of inadequate means, the board has, with the aid and co-operation of Government, resolved to form a "manual labor boarding school" at this place. Preparatory to this, upwards of seventy acres of land have been fenced and part broken; a contract for making 200,000 brick has been let, and 100,000 are now ready to lay up, and the remainder will be made at least as soon as needed. Hands are employed to commence the foundation, forward stone, &c., so that we hope to be able to get the main buildings up the coming summer.

Besides attending to this business, the printing press has drawn largely on the time which otherwise would have been given to the school. We have printed one elementary book of 101 pages, 225 copies; one hymn book of 62 pages, 125 copies; one prayer book of 24 pages, 100 copies; one question book in press, of 30 pages, 200 copies. The New Testament we expect to commence shortly. These books will be a great aid in the contemplated school; with them the children will soon be able to read in their own language, which will in some degree remove the formidable appearance of the English. This school is intended mainly for the benefit of the Iowas and Sacs, but will be open to neighboring tribes, that they may assist in and derive the benefits of it. Our board is cramped for means to carry on this improvement, but we rely much on your influence with the Government for assistance; and we are not a little gratified and encouraged by the generous donation from the Iowas of more than \$1,400 for this purpose. From this evident mark of their friendship to this institution, we cannot but think that if they were properly treated they would be willing

ally been maintained between them and the white population. Complaints, however, have reached me of depredations sometimes committed by the Winnebagoes and Menomonees; and a strong desire is expressed by the citizens of this Territory, that these Indians may be kept within their own limits, where the Indian title has not been extinguished. The Winnebagoes on the ceded lands within this Territory are bound, by treaty, to leave them, as also are the Menomonees, who are bounded in their possessions southeast by the Wisconsin river, northeast by the Wolf river, southeast by the Fox river, and northwest by the Chippewas of Lake Superior. Numerous complaints have been made of the depredations committed by the Winnebagoes and Menomonees, and it is sometimes proposed to remove them to a distance from the settlements, in order to affect their subsistence. And it is also proposed to send a detachment of that part, as soon as they are prepared to carry out the wishes of the Government, or of the citizens, to the removal of these Indians, and to keep them within their own proper limits, except by a company of mounted men, to be stationed at Fort Winnebago. He earnestly recommends such a measure, in which it most cordially concurs.

Deputations from the Indian party, as it is called, of the Stockbridge tribe, and from the Missouri party, as it is called, of the Oneidas, have waited on me, to represent and explain their difficulties, respectively. The question of citizenship amongst the former, and that of removal beyond the Mississippi amongst the latter, still agitates them. I have not been able, for want of time, to give to those subjects such an examination as to satisfy my own mind as to what ought to be done: I therefore express no opinion in relation to them, but leave them for future investigation.

I send, herewith, the report, &c., of the sub-agent at Green Bay, which will give more detailed information of the Indians within his agency. I have not yet received any report or communication from the sub-agent at Lapointe, but will forward to the department any information from him as soon as received.

I enclose the estimate of funds required for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the Indians within this superintendency, and for the current expenses for the year 1845. These estimates are based upon those of the preceding year; and the only material alteration is the omission of the sum of \$6,000 to the Menomonees, which I suppose ceases by the limitation in the treaty.

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

W. F. CALHOUN.

Wm. T. G. CRAWFORD,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(61.)

GREEN BAY SUB-AGENCY, September 16. A. D. 1844.

SENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REGULATIONS OF THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT, REQUIRING ME TO MAKE AN ANNUAL STATEMENT OF MY SUB-AGENCY. I RESPECTFULLY SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING REPORT:

I entered upon the duties of my office on the 1st day of January, 1844. The tribes in my charge are the Menomonies and the Oneidas. I am not at present able to furnish the numerical strength of the Menomonies. I believe, however, they number about two thousand five hundred souls. Their numbers can be more correctly taken at the annuity payment, to which I respectfully refer your excellency. About two-thirds of the Menomonies reside in their own country; the remainder reside on lands ceded by them in 1836. The country belonging to the Menomonies is bounded as follows: Southwest by the Wisconsin river, northeast by the Wolf river, southeast by the Fox river, northwest by the Chippewas of Lake Superior. A large portion of their lands comprises some of the best farming country in northern Wisconsin, and is also well timbered in parts with the white and yellow pine. Their country is washed by three of the largest rivers in the Territory, and possessed of immense water power.

The Menomonies are a brave, generous, and inoffensive people, but, I am sorry to add, they are, with few exceptions, men and women, addicted to drunkenness. Since my first acquaintance with them, which is of a number of years' standing, I cannot see the slightest change for the better in this respect. It is a lamentable fact, they will sell their last rag of clothing to obtain whiskey, and they are not at a loss to find purchasers; they are hunted like wolves by worthless traders, who have scarcely any thing to sell but whiskey. It seems to me the law regulating trade with the Indians is imperative, and should not be restricted to the Indian country. A whiskey trader may open his shop within a few rods of the Indian land, put the law at defiance, and covertly sell as much as he pleases. Thus the bounty of the Government to the Indian is absorbed in whiskey, and his family deprived of the necessaries required by them for the winter. Since the first day I entered upon the duties of my office, I have exerted all the influence I am clothed with to induce the Indians to remove to their own country. Several small bands have left, and seem to be well pleased with their new homes. Others are under engagement to leave this fall. I hope to be able to effect the removal of them all in the course of the next season, without its costing the Government one dollar; but, in effecting this object, I am often brought in contact with the trader, who advises the Indians not to remove. During my visit to the upper Wisconsin in February last, on official duty, Oshkosh, the principal chief of the nation, complained to me of the high prices the traders were in the habit of charging the Indians for goods. He said they had to pay fifteen dollars for 1½ yards of white list cloth for a blanket, and which cost the trader less than three dollars.

If a system of sutling could be established for the Indians, similar to that of the army, honorable men would embark in the business, and the wants of the Indians would be better supplied, and at much cheaper rates. For instance: a sutler being appointed, and having made the necessary purchases, let his goods be examined, as to quality, &c., by two or more agents, or other officers for that purpose, and let them place a fair per centage upon them. When an Indian wishes to trade, let him apply to the agent for a permit. On this permit the sutler will specify the articles furnished, and the price, as in the case of all merchants' bills. These permits, being examined by the agent or agents, will be a sufficient voucher for his pay, when the annuity payment takes place. I would also suggest that the sutler so appointed should give sufficient bonds, &c. This is a matter I

have thought seriously upon, and, in my opinion, the Indians would derive immense advantages from a system of trading similar to the one I have proposed; and I cannot but feel gratified at the opportunity that is furnished me of submitting it to your excellency. The Indian, being thus furnished, would procure all his necessaries at a fair price, and, above all, without having whiskey thrown in his way. It is well known that, having once tasted, the trader can do with him as he pleases.

The Indians complain that the whites engaged in lumbering on the upper Wisconsin, as well as on the Black, the Lemonware, and Plover rivers, trespass at will on their pine lands. I have caused notices, forbidding all persons from trespassing on their lands, to be posted up.

The Menomonies cultivate but little land, and that in small patches; the work is done by the women; they cultivate corn, beans, squashes, pumpkins, &c.; the men are too proud to work. They subsist principally by hunting and fishing, and on the collection of wild rice. The latter is to be found in great abundance in their country.

The two blacksmiths in my sub-agency have answered the expectations of the department, and have supplied all the wants of the Indians. The shops are in charge of sober, industrious men, and who have had a long experience in the business, who know the wants of the Indians, and the importance of their stations to the Government. The Menomonies have not had any schools in their country since they ceded their lands in 1836. I hope, however, to get one in successful operation this fall, on the Wolf river.

The Oneida Indians reside on the west side of the Fox river, about ten miles from the sub-agency. Their land is rich, fertile, and well watered, by Duck Creek and other smaller streams. They have forests of white pine, sugar maple, and other valuable timber. It is one of the best tracts of farming land in this section of the country, susceptible of supplying all the wants of the white as well as the red man. These Indians are, in a great measure, civilized. They have adopted, to a general extent, the language, dress, and manners of the white man. They are all farmers. A large number of these people, male and female, are members of churches. They have two very neat churches, Episcopal and Methodist. These would be a credit to many of our Western villages. They have also two school houses; the schools are under the superintendence and tuition of two reverend gentlemen, Mr. Davis and Mr. Coleman, who reside also on their lands. I have visited these schools on two occasions the present year, and have found them orderly and well conducted. The Oneidas live in good comfortable houses, cultivate large farms, and will have a large surplus of wheat, oats, barley, corn, &c., to sell this season; in fact, they have all the comforts of life about them.

For a more minute detail of their numbers, farm houses, cattle, &c., I respectfully refer your excellency to the report of the Rev. Solomon Davis.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. JONES,

United States Indian Sub-Agent.

His Excellency JAMES D. DOTY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.