

W. S. M.

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

MADE TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

FOR

THE YEAR 1869.

1869



WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE,
1870.

Checked

Cuipewas of Lake Superior.....	\$4,800 00
Ottawas and Chippewas.....	37,500 00
Chippewas of Grand River.....	6,300 00
Chippewas of Sagnaw.....	17,769 63
Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottawatomes.....	2,332 50
Total.....	68,792 13

By the above statement it will be seen that there is due to the Ottawas and Chippewas forty-three thousand eight hundred and ninety dollars. Of this sum, at the request of the chiefs, and also in consonance of my own views, I would recommend that fifteen thousand dollars be set aside for the erection of saw and grist mills for the Indians in the Grand Traverse section; one to be located at Garden Island, one at Northport, and one either at Little Traverse or Cross Pillage; the same to have steam for a motive power, and the salary of competent men for two years to be included in the above total.

I feel confident that these mills would be of far more benefit to them than money.

I would also respectfully recommend that an appropriation of one thousand six hundred dollars be asked for for the purpose of erecting docks at the reservation at L'Anse Bay, Lake Superior. They would greatly facilitate the sale of the products of the Indians in that locality, and would be a benefit most worthily bestowed.

I would also respectfully recommend that the following appropriations be asked for. In the individual cases, it is where in times past they have rendered services to the government which have never as yet been recognized:

For the relief of O-shaw-waw-no, chief, at Sault Ste. Marie.....	\$500
For the relief of Nendawabe.....	200
For the relief of Joseph Elliott.....	500
For repairs of agency buildings at Mackinac and Sault Ste. Marie.....	1,000
Total.....	2,200

The usual statistical tables will be sent as soon as it is possible to complete them. Since the arrival of funds for payment of annuities, I have lost no time, but have been continually on the move from one reservation to another. Many things of importance have claimed my attention, and I have endeavored to do equal justice to all. Owing to the short space of time between the arrival of funds and the 30th of October, by which time the annual reports are required, I have not had the time I would have wished to compile these statistics. They will, however, be as accurate as the circumstances will permit.

I have in this report treated upon what I believe to be the most important issues, to which I would ask the attention and special consideration of the department.

I would add that the goods delivered to the Indians of Lake Superior gave universal satisfaction. They were of superior fabric, and seemed to be considered as of better quality than those heretofore issued.

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

JAMES W. LONG,

Brevet Major U. S. A., Indian Agent.

Hon. E. S. PARKER,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 139.

GREEN BAY AGENCY,

August 1, 1869.

SIR: My last annual report represented the condition of the several Indian tribes embraced in this agency, and contained such suggestions as occurred to me for their improvement. Since that time no material change has occurred to modify the views then presented; but the experience of another year strengthens the conviction of their propriety. The Stockbridges have been encouraged to believe that something would be done to ameliorate their condition by affording them a more hospitable country, in place of the cold and sterile region which they now occupy. They have at present residing upon their reservation less than one hundred and fifty souls, and the number and area of their cultivation are not increasing. They do little in tilling the soil, on account of the uncertain and scanty returns received from their labor. They depend more upon the sale of their pine timber to procure subsistence than upon the crops to be gathered from the fields.

Had they not been from time to time supplied with provisions by the avails of their lumber, many of them must have suffered for want of the necessities of life. They are fast receding from the habits of temperance and industry which characterized their principal men a few years ago, and unless something is speedily done to arrest their downward course, the lessons of their former missionaries will be lost in their utter demoralization.

If their lands were exchanged for a more genial climate and better quality of soil, they have the intelligence and ability to make themselves comfortable and respected. The lands to be given them should be secured to the heads of families and adults, and no property or money should be furnished them as a tribe.

The most demoralizing influence with any band of Indians is the possession of a common fund to be paid to or distributed among them. It attracts the most vicious and unprincipled whites around them; they lean upon it as their sole means of supplying their daily wants. They refrain from individual enterprise or exertion, spend their time in idleness and dissipation, and neglect to make provision by their labor for themselves and families. The more educated they become, the greater is the mischief to them of those payments, for they are naturally brought more readily into association with a class of whites who engage in no reputable employment, never labor for a living, and whose only resource is to beg, borrow, or steal. The Stockbridges are generally well educated; most of them speak, read, and write our language, and are capable under proper guardianship of becoming an intelligent, enterprising, and prosperous people. Give them good farming lands in severalty, furnish them with the means and implements for opening, stocking, and cultivating their farms, let their schools be kept in operation under charge of a faithful missionary teacher, and they will soon cease to be a charge upon the public bounty, and will need nothing except what their own industry and judgment will supply.

The Oneidas are steadily advancing in the acquisition of the manners and customs of civilized communities. Their reservation contains a large body of excellent farming lands, and many of their farms present a very thrifty appearance. Some of the tribe have expressed great anxiety to have their land surveyed and allotted to them in severalty. They have petitioned the President and Congress on the subject, and there can be no doubt that their request should be complied with.

They receive no annuities except the pittance of seven or eight hundred dollars, (less than one dollar per head,) under the treaty of 1794, and to this fact is attributed in a great measure their present prosperous condition. They depend upon their own labor to procure subsistence, and cases of extreme want are seldom known among them.

The Indian should be weaned from the tribal custom of a community property; he should be taught to regard his individual interest, to depend on his own exertions and economy to afford the comforts of life, or his progress in civilization will be extremely slow, and the lessons he receives will be of no permanent value to him. Unless the stimulus of personal interest and private gain is given to him, he will, after years of teaching, relapse into the indolent and vagrant habits so common with all native tribes.

It is believed that the best interests of the Oneidas will be promoted by allotting farms to such as desire them, and creating with the avails of their surplus lands a permanent fund for the maintenance of schools among them.

In reference to the Menomonees, I respectfully refer to my last annual report for a statement of their condition, and recommendations for their improvement.

Their reservation contains ten townships of land, and their number does not exceed fifteen hundred souls, and is constantly decreasing. A few acres to each individual is all that will be required for agricultural purposes in all time to come; the remainder of the territory can be put to no practical use by them except as hunting grounds. It consists, however, of barren plains and pine forests (valuable only for the timber) nearly destitute of game.

In their annual hunts the tribe roams over the immense tract of government land, adjoining which the progress of settlement will not reach for many years.

Should their large reservation be reduced to two or three townships of the best farming lands, and the remainder sold and proceeds invested as a school and improvement fund, it would afford ample means with the amount now belonging to the tribe, to support a manual labor school for the education of their youth, and put under cultivation and stock a farm for each on his arrival at maturity.

The same plan of improvement is applicable in the management of all Indian tribes. The distinction of *chiefs* and herding in bands should be destroyed. Annuities should be withheld or paid in useful and necessary articles distributed to such as need and make good use of them. The idle and vicious should be treated with no favor, and disfunctions among them only the reward of merit. Land should be given them in severalty, as soon as they shall have learned by proper education and training to appreciate its productive value, and they should be taught to depend each upon his own unaided efforts to procure the necessities of life. In addition to this, if the missionary and school-master are diligent in the care and education of the young, they will grow up thoroughly imbued with principles of morality, and will understand that a character for virtue, industry, and sobriety, is the only sure passport to respectability and to the enjoyment of social comfort and pecuniary independence.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. E. S. PARKER,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

M. L. MARTIN,
(Late) Indian Agent.

No. 140.

GREEN BAY, October 7, 1869.

Sir: In submitting my first annual report respecting the affairs and condition of the Indians of this agency, I can do little more, owing to the limited time I have had charge, than to forward such statistics as I have been able to collect, as supplementary to the report of my predecessor, Mr. Martin.

The condition, wants, and history of the different tribes comprising this agency were reviewed at length by him in his report of 1868, to which he alludes in his report of the present year, to which this is a supplement.

So far as I have been able to observe, I have found the condition of the different tribes substantially as reported by him.

While there are many recommendations to make and abuses to reform, I do not feel myself as yet sufficiently acquainted with their origin, local supports, and extraneous incentives to give that advice and recommend such measures as a more thorough and patient examination will, I trust, enable me to do in the future.

Of one thing, however, I feel morally certain, that before any measures can be taken to change their present relations, those inferior having interested motives, appealing to personal interests and party spirit, will have to be removed.

The Indian, so often wronged, has just enough of enlightenment to distrust all, and is fearful of any change, however beneficial or ameliorating to his condition, suspecting in it some new method to perpetrate further wrongs and aggressions. This state of feeling is taken advantage of and fostered by parties interested in and profiting by his present status, and his jealousy and opposition constantly kept alive to any measure of reform by them.

Of these parties and their influences, I shall have occasion to speak in the future.

The statistics of farming and other material resources, together with the various school reports respectfully submitted, is all I have to add in regard to the individual tribes, except to state that the stumpage due the Stockbridges on the Knapp and Rockwell and Upham contracts is in a fair way of adjustment; and that I have not been able to collect any statistics of their farming or productive wealth, for want of a fund applicable to that purpose.

I would also state that the absence of a report stating the amount of lumber sawed and distributed from the Menomonee mill during the year is owing to the discharge of the former miller, Mr. Tourtelotte, who did not furnish any.

Your attention is also called to the statement of Mr. Howd, relative to a school-house on the Oneida reserve, the materials for which have been furnished, the building being delayed for want of a fund for its construction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. MANLEY,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. S. PARKER,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 141.

STOCKBRIDGE AND MUNSEE RESERVATION,
Near Keshena, Wis., August 14, 1869.

SIR: According to instructions, I present you the annual report of the Stockbridge school in my charge. In taking a retrospective view of the progress of the school during the past year, I feel gratified with the improvement of the scholars in their respective studies. The school was opened September 1, 1868; the highest number in attendance was forty-eight, with an average attendance of thirty. The branches taught were orthography, reading, writing, geography, and arithmetic.

A vacation followed, which lasted until May 1, 1869, when school was reopened with thirty-six scholars in attendance, with an average attendance of thirty. I am much pleased with the advancement of the children, and parents, as well as children, appear to be satisfied with their school. The plan of intrusting to the teachers the distribution of clothing, furnished by the Indian Department is, in my opinion, a very wise one, and has been made to work for the benefit of the school and scholars. I would therefore respectfully recommend its continuance. The liberal supply of clothing furnished the school children last season stimulated parents to take a more lively interest in the school, and has been attended with highly beneficial results.

JEREMIAH SLINGERLAND,
*Lieutenant J. A. MANLEY,
United States Indian Agent, Green Bay, Wis.*

No. 142.

ONEIDA, WTS., *July 31, 1869.*

DEAR SIR: The Protestant Episcopal mission school for the Oneidas, in Wisconsin, has been in session during the past year; from the 5th day of October, 1868, to the 2d day of July, 1869. Much sickness has prevailed a greater part of the year; had this not been the case no doubt a larger daily average of attendance would have been obtained. Notwithstanding the average has been greater by seven part by myself, a lady teacher having charge of the girls. The studies have been in the common English branches. The children have improved in their studies, in regularity of attendance, in their behavior in school, and in their manners and dress. The child-
The people of the tribe are gradually taking a deeper interest in the duty of sending their children to school.
There have been seventy-four boys and seventy-four girls in attendance.

Average attendance of boys for one hundred and fifty-nine days, 26½; of girls for one hundred and sixty-three days, 26½; total daily average attendance for the year, 53.
Very respectfully,

E. A. GOODNOTGH, *Teacher.*
*Lieutenant J. A. MANLEY,
United States Indian Agent, Green Bay, Wis.*

No. 143.

ONEIDA INDIAN RESERVATION,
September 8, 1869.

SIR: I respectfully submit to you the following annual report of the Methodist Episcopal mission school.

The school has been in session one hundred and eighty-five days. Whole number of scholars in attendance were seventy-five—thirty-five girls and forty boys; the average attendance about thirty. Those regular in their attendance made rapid improvement. Their conduct was orderly and their deportment respectful. The branches taught were orthography, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and grammar. I am happy to be able to say that the school and mission are in a prosperous condition; we have found it very inconvenient teaching in the small house we now have, (16x20;) but now have material on the ground for a new building, (25x40;) waiting for means to build it. Very respectfully yours,

J. HOWEL, *Teacher.*
*Lieutenant J. A. MANLEY,
United States Indian Agent.*

No. 144.

OFFICE INDIAN AGENT,
Dunkirk, N. Y., October 2, 1869.

SIR: I respectfully state that in pursuance with your instructions of July 26, 1869, I have the honor to submit the following annual report of the condition of Indian affairs in this agency for your consideration. Owing to the short time I have been connected with the agency, I am not able to make it as full as desired, my knowledge being limited mostly to inquiries, and not based on personal observations, which are so requisite for a communication of this nature. On the subject of schools I have been compelled to base most of my report on the annual report of the superintendent of public instruction of the State for this year, which exhibits the condition of schools last year.

I wrote to him, requesting that the superintendents of Indian schools be directed to furnish me with a statement of the condition of the schools under their charge, from the date of their last report to him up to August 31, 1869. This he declined to do.

On the Cattaraugus reservation there are ten school districts. This includes the Thomas Orphan Asylum. The schools during the year have been well attended, and are in a prosperous condition. The school-houses on the reservation are all of them in good repair. The school-Orphan Asylum is burdened with debt, to remove which the State assembly, at its last session, increased the allowance from \$50 to \$85 per annum for each inmate.

On the Alleghany reservation there are six school districts. The school buildings are in excellent condition, and the schools well attended. On the Tonawanda reservation there are two schools, which have been quite well attended during the year. The school-houses are old, and I presume no effort will be made to repair them, as the legislature, during its last session, passed an act providing for the maintenance of a "manual labor school" on this reservation. The law directs that the