

In appropriating the funds committed to my care for the relief and support of these people, I have been as frugal as possible, and have confined the distribution principally to such as were in actual want, visiting their camps personally, and attending in the first place to the wants of the sick, the aged, infirm and destitute, occasionally rewarding honesty, merit and industry with small donations. The balance in my hands of £13 7s. remaining of the grant of the current year, (£30) I shall be obliged to expend so soon as the cold weather sets in, as many are destitute of comfortable clothing, particularly some old people on my list, and several children. The almost general failure of the Potato crop in this part of the Province will cause the approaching Winter to be one of unusual want and distress with the Indians. All those I had supplied with seed potatoes last Spring have had their plantings destroyed by fires, and this calamity is not confined to the Indians alone, but very many of our settlers have had their Grain and Potatoe crops destroyed in like manner, as from the unprecedented dryness of the season the fires were burning in all parts of the Country.

As to the habits of the Indians they are generally speaking by no means active or industrious, and it has long been a matter of doubt with me, from my own observation, whether affording them support even to a limited extent does not rather tend to confirm those habits of idleness and indolence to which they are naturally predisposed. I find it the case as far as my own experience goes, that the more you give them the more they require and expect. They are never satisfied, and they imbibe the idea that Government will support them, consequently they are careless to hunt and provide for themselves. Having come to this conclusion from the result of many years experience, I feel bound to offer the above remark in this my Report to Your Excellency, although I am aware that such is not the general received opinion as regards these people. As Your Excellency will no doubt receive a most full and particular Report from Mr. Perley, I shall not trouble Your Excellency at this time with any further remarks on the subject, feeling confident that the abilities and experience of that Gentleman, are much better adapted to do justice to the cause he has engaged in, than any thing I can possibly attempt to offer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. BARBERIE,

Indian Commissioner, County Restigouche.

His Excellency Sir WILLIAM MACBEAN GEORGE COLEBROOKE,
Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c. &c.

No. 8.

REPORT OF SURVEYOR GENERAL ON INDIAN RESERVES.

Crown Land Office, 29th June, 1841.

SIR,—In obedience to your Excellency's commands, I have now the honor to transmit the following Report, Schedule, and Sketches, shewing the extent and situation of the Reserved Indian Lands in New Brunswick, stating also, at what dates, and for what particular Tribes of Indians, the said Reserves were respectively made.

Fourteen Tracts, containing sixty one thousand two hundred and seventy three acres, have been reserved in this Province for their benefit, but the title to these lands still remains in the Crown,—leave only "to occupy and possess during pleasure," having been given to the Indians, they cannot at present, of themselves, prevent the encroachments, which have now, to a considerable extent, been made by unauthorized persons, who have in most cases, against the will of the Indians, settled upon, and continue to retain forcible possession of many parts of the best of their lands, neither can they punish the trespassers, who continue, year after year, to plunder their Reserves of the most valuable timber.

Indian Commissioners have been appointed by Government to expend the small sums of money which are annually granted by the Legislature for the relief of the Indians, but the law has not yet vested the Indian Commissioners with sufficient power to enable them to exercise authority over the Reserves.

With a few exceptions only, the Reserves have been established by Minutes of Council, but their boundaries have never been properly ascertained, and but few of the side or rear lines have yet been surveyed, their exact situation therefore, is imperfectly known, and they must continue liable to be interfered with, by those persons who obtain licence from this Office to cut Timber on the adjoining Crown Lands, until their precise limits are defined by actual survey, and plans thereof filed in this Department.

For these reasons, the information contained in the annexed sketches, is rather scanty, nor indeed can they be relied upon as being even so far strictly correct.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN S. SAUNDERS,

Surveyor General.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c. &c.

COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

10,000 acres on both sides of the Little South West, at its confluence with the North West Miramichi—13th August, 1783.

3,033 acres on the North side of the North West Miramichi, commencing opposite the lower end of Beobear's Point, and running up—10th January, 1789—for John Julian and the Miramichi Tribe of Indians.

8,700 acres on the Northeast side of the North West Miramichi, opposite the Sevogle Streams; also

750 acres on the North side of the North West Miramichi, opposite the Little South West—5th March, 1805—for John Julian and the Micmac Tribe of Indians.

240 acres, Burnt Church Point, Miramichi Bay; also

1,400 acres on the North side Burnt Church, above Point Au Moreau, Miramichi Bay; also

9,035 acres on the Tabusintak River, from Cowaseget's Creek, up five miles, and back from each side 1½ miles, including 10 acres at M'Gray's Point, and 25 acres at Ferry Point—18th February, 1802—for Indian Natives inhabiting the Tabusintak District.

COUNTY OF KENT.

4,600 acres on the North side of the Richibucto River, from Wm. Harley's grant to Bass River—9th September, 1805—modified the 25th February, 1824—for Richibucto Indians.

3,500 acres on the North side of the Shebuctouche River, from Dominic Robicheau's grant up to the upper line of lot No. 25, above Mill Creek—1st November, 1810—for Shebuctouche Indians.

COUNTY OF CARLETON.

16,000 acres on the East side of the River Saint John, from the Tobique rocks to opposite the mouth of the Arestook, and embracing both sides of the Tobique for about three miles up—4th September, 1801—for Neville Bernard, and his Tribe of Melicete Indians.

COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER.

2,600 acres on the South side of the Pokemouche River, from Waganchitz brook, up three miles, surveyed in August, 1811, under an order in Council, of May, 1804—for John B. Pomainville and 16 others, Indians of Pokemouche River.

1,000 acres, being 500 on each side of the Nepisiquit River, between the Pabineau and the Strong Waters, occupied by the Nepisiquit Indians of the Micmac Tribe, and (date of Reserve cannot be ascertained.)

400 acres on the North side of Eel River, and south of the grant to R. Ferguson, occupied by the Restigouche Indians, but no record appears.

COUNTY OF SAINT JOHN.

15 acres, the three Islands, called the "Brothers," near Sandy Point, Kennebecasis Bay—19th September, 1838—for the Melicete Indians. Held under the Lieutenant Governor's Licence of Occupation.

Total, 61,273 acres.

Return of the number of Persons who have settled upon, and occupy portions of the Indian Reserves, in the Province of New Brunswick, 1841.

COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

Eel Ground at Oxford Brook,	13
Indian Point, 13 miles above Newcastle,	18
Little South West Reserve,	49
Reserve on the N. W. Miramichi, above Wild Cat Brook,	3
Reserve at Burnt Church River,	1
Tabusintak River,	3—87

GLOUCESTER.

Pocmouche Reserve, 1—1

KENT.

Richibucto River Reserve, 8
Buctouche River Reserve, 5—13

CARLETON.

Tobique Reserve, 16
Madawaska, 1—17

Total of Persons, 118

Return of Indian Reserved Lands in the Province of New Brunswick, April 20, 1842.

Total extent in acres of Indian Reserved Lands,	62,223
Total number of persons who have settled on them whose cases are reported on by Mr. Perley,	118
Total number of Indians in the Province, Male and Female,	1,377

We regret to learn, that the Minister of Saint Paul's Church of Scotland, in this place, the Rev. Dr. Birkmyre, who is now in Great Britain, has been obliged to resign his pastoral charge, in consequence of the continued ill health of Mrs. Birkmyre.

The Rev. Gentleman has laboured in his Ministerial office at Fredericton, for the last ten years, during which period, the Congregation has been very greatly increased, and in him the Church of Scotland in this Province, will lose a highly talented and popular Preacher.

Dr. Birkmyre and his amiable partner, were also both much esteemed, by all who had the pleasure of their private acquaintance; and though the waters of the wide Atlantic must in future roll between, they will long be remembered by many with affection; and whose fervent prayers will ascend to the Author of all Good, for their happiness in this world and in that which is to come.—*Com.*