

bushels of Potatoes planted by individuals on their sole account, and their farm has a very respectable appearance.

The Captain of the Madawaska Settlement is named Louis Bernard, a very respectable industrious man, to whose sole exertions the prosperous state of the farm is to be attributed. He told me that he was upwards of fifty years of age; that he was born on the land, and that his father and grandfather were also born, lived, died, and were buried on this spot. That when he was a boy, the Indians had a very considerable Village here, the wigwams standing in regular streets near the water side; he pointed out to me the former site of their Village, and also the boundaries that were assigned to the Tribe when he was a youth. Their land commenced on the bank of the Saint John, at a small Brook half-a-mile above the mouth of the Madawaska River, and extended down the Saint John, one mile and a half to a point of rocks jutting into the Stream, which point is now the boundary between the Indian land and the property of Alexander Albert.

Within this tract a grant was made some years ago to — on the East side of the Madawaska, of 200 acres. — purchased from an Indian who then resided on the land, a piece containing nine acres, which was marked out by stakes. Under color of this purchase, he succeeded in obtaining from the Crown a grant of 200 acres. Recently the Government had occasion to take possession of a portion of this grant, 400 yards square, on which to place a Block House, and other Public Works, when — demanded fifteen hundred pounds damages, but was eventually induced, or rather compelled, to take three hundred pounds, in satisfaction of his claim.

That part of the Indian Reserve on the West side of the Madawaska, is now in possession of —, under a Licence of occupation at a nominal rent. — makes no use of this land, and appears to hold it with the hope of eventually obtaining title to it, and for that purpose only. Some years before — obtained a Licence to occupy this land, Pierre Denis, an Indian, had cleared and cultivated a portion of the front, on which he had built a small house, and was living very comfortably. Denis refused to give up possession, and finally an order was passed that — should pay to Denis a certain sum for his house, which was appraised at fifty dollars, and on the promise of that sum being paid, Denis quitted the land in 1837, and yielded up possession to —.

I saw Pierre Denis at the Tobique; he is an old man, childless and in poor circumstances.

On behalf of the Indians, I claim the land now held by — under the licence of occupation, and pray that he may be compelled to pay Pierre Denis the sum due by appraisement for his improvements, or else allow him to re-occupy them.

The total number of Micmac Indians now in this Province, is four hundred and forty two, and, in conclusion, I have to submit a few remarks on the Settlements recently visited.

The Indians at the Village near Fredericton, have of late years become rather industrious; the women work early and late at the manufacture of baskets, while the men provide the materials, and also till the soil with their own hands. They do not follow the chase so ardently, or for so great a part of the season, as they used to do, and they lead much more settled lives than formerly. Hence it may be inferred that this would be the most eligible place, for the establishment of a School, and for making the attempt to civilize them. The Village is in a respectable neighbourhood, near the Seat of Government, and could always be kept under effectual supervision, and the immediate eye of the Executive.

Of the small Settlement at the Meductic, I regret that I have to state, that (with one or two exceptions) the men are drunkards, and the women debauched, while the children are naked and starving. I respectfully recommend that the valuable land they occupy, should be leased for the benefit of the Tribe, and the Settlement broken up.

The Indians at Tobique, subsist in a great measure by the chase, by occasional employment in lumbering, and in piloting rafts down the Tobique and the Saint John. They seem by no means inclined to continue labour, or the cultivation of the soil—yet, from the advantages of their situation, and the value of the Salmon Fishery, they have rather comfortable dwellings, and appear in easy circumstances as compared with others of the Tribe.

They appeared very anxious to have a Chapel, but by no means so anxious for a School; it will be matter for consideration hereafter, whether it would not be advisable to induce the Indians to leave this place, and settle at the Village, near Fredericton. The ground they occupy is much wanted as the site of a Town, and would lease for a very considerable sum.

With respect to the Madawaska Settlement, I have to state that Louis Bernard and his family are respectable, and well conducted; the other men there, devote themselves almost entirely to the chase, and, whenever they obtain money, spend it in drink. I think it would be advisable to let Bernard occupy a portion of this land during his life, and lease the rest for the benefit of the Tribe.

I conceive I have stated enough to show the manner in which the Indian Reserves are trespassed upon, and are gradually frittering away, from the absence of superintendence, and the want of authority in some person or persons to watch over and protect the rights of the unlettered people who, from their situation and utter ignorance of business, are peculiarly open to the schemes of designing persons. I refrain from offering any observations as to the general management of the Indian Lands, until I shall have

visited the Micmac Settlements, as whatever measures are adopted, should apply equally to all.

From the best information I could obtain, I came to the conclusion, that if the Indian Lands on the Saint John, were judiciously leased, and their numerous resources developed and rendered available, a Revenue might be derived from them, sufficient not only to educate all the children of the Tribe, but also to feed and clothe them during the period of such education.

General Return of Indians of the Micmac Tribe on the River Saint John, 12th August, 1841.

Settlements.	Men.	Women	Boys.	Girls.	Total
At Saint John.....	22	27	31	25	105
At the Village.....	46	42	36	34	158
At Meductic.....	5	6	9	9	29
At Tobique Point.....	33	31	25	34	123
At Madawaska.....	5	7	6	9	27
Totals.....	111	113	107	111	442

No. 2.

EXTRACTS FROM MR. PERLEY'S REPORT ON THE MICMACS.

Dated 11th December, 1841.

Of the Micmac Indians, Mr. Perley reports:—

I obtained the names and numbers of the Indians at this Settlement, (Renous) amounting to 101 souls.

The Micmacs of this Settlement stated to me, that with a little assistance they could make a very comfortable subsistence by fishing and tilling the land. They have all taken the total abstinence pledge; and I may here state generally, that all the Micmacs of New Brunswick have taken the same pledge, with the exception of those at Bathurst. Formerly, they were generally intemperate, and much less industrious and cleanly than at present. The great improvement which has taken place in their character, conduct and appearance, since their adoption of the pledge and firm adherence to it, is really wonderful. It furnishes a brilliant example to those of higher standing, possessing greater information, and conceiving themselves superior in every respect to the unlettered and neglected Indian, who yet continue to wallow in the mire of intemperance. They may derive a profitable lesson from the Micmacs.

This great moral reformation has been effected principally by the exertions of the Rev. Mr. Egan of Miramichi, and his coadjutor Mr. Vereker, the Rev. Hector Drolet of Caraquet, the Rev. Mr. Paquet of Richibucto, and the Rev. Ferdinand Gauvreau of Dorchester, to each and all of whom the greatest credit is due for their untiring perseverance and zeal in the good cause. To these Rev. Gentlemen much praise is also due for their unremitting attention as well to the spiritual welfare as to the temporal interests of the Indians under their pastoral charge, for all which as yet they have not received any pecuniary compensation.

On the 27th August I arrived at Newcastle, where I was met by all the Chiefs and a number of other Indians, who expressed the greatest joy at my coming. A meeting was arranged for the following day, when we proceeded to Oxford Brook, where we met with a very cordial and flattering reception from a large number of Indians assembled there, including most of the Chiefs from the other Settlements. I explained to the meeting the object of my mission, and stated the wish of the Executive to render the lands reserved for their use available for their benefit; and the desire to improve their condition, by forming them into Settlements, establishing Schools, teaching the children to farm, and instructing them in trades. The announcement that the Executive was about to take some interest in their affairs, created great satisfaction, and caused much rejoicing.

I ascertained the number of souls at this Settlement (which is called the Eel Ground) to amount to 108. There is but one framed house here, which belongs to Louis Julien; the others live in wigwams, much scattered about. They planted this year 53 barrels of potatoes, 2½ bushels of wheat, and 17 bushels of oats; their crop looked very well, and promised a good yield. The men here chiefly employ themselves in getting lathwood, bark for tanning, treenails, and timber. Some work as Coopers, and make very good articles. The women make a variety of baskets, brooms and boxes for sale, and they sew very neatly. Upon the whole, this may be considered an industrious Settlement. In the winter they obtain from the River (through the ice) many bass, and great quantities of fine eels, of which they are exceedingly fond; whence the Settlement has its name.

On the 30th we proceeded up the North West Miramichi to Red Bank, at the mouth of the Little South West. Some families are settled at Red Bank, and some on the Reserve upon the opposite side; they amount to 50 souls.

Barnaby Julien resides at Red Bank, where he has a tolerable house and barn. He succeeded his brother André Julien, as Chief of the Micmac Nation, and he obtained a Commission in regular form, under the hand and seal of His Excellency Sir Archibald Campbell, countersigned by the Provincial Secretary, dated 20th September, 1836, appointing him Chief of the Micmac Indians of Miramichi and its dependencies, and requiring them to obey him as