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WARDS OF THE NATION.

Annual Report of Mr. Jas. Farrell, Indian Agent of This City.

THE RED MEN OF KINGSCLEAR, ST. MARYS AND OTHER PLACES.

Surroundings of St. Marys Reserve Not in Best Interests of Indian Life.

Following is the full text of the report of Indian Agent James Farrell for 1903 as published in the blue book issued by the department of Indian affairs:

Fredericton, July 13, 1903.
The Honourable, The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, Ottawa.
Sir,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended June 30, 1903.

Edmundston Reserve.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in Madawaska county. It contains an area of seven hundred and twenty acres, of which five hundred and twenty are forest-lands, covered chiefly with spruce, fir and hardwood. The remainder of the reserve comprises high and intervals lands fronting on the St. John river, all of which is excellent for farming purposes.

Vital statistics.—The population of the band is forty-seven, an increase of one for the past year.

Resources and Occupations.—The employments engaged in by these Indians are milling, hunting, acting as guides, stream-driving and making Indian wares. A few of the band give considerable time to farming. Their crops consist chiefly of oats, potatoes, buckwheat, corn and hay, and usually are a fair average. Most of the Indians, however, prefer hunting and acting as guides to any other means of earning a livelihood.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians, excepting an aged Indian who has been ill for twelve months past, has been remarkably good. No disease of a contagious nature made its appearance amongst them during the past year. Their dwellings are of modern finish, and are neatly kept. Sanitary measures

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Such cases as these prove the power of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They make new rich, red blood, and in this way cure all diseases due to bad blood and weak nerves. You can get these pills from any medicine dealer or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, by writing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

are strictly attended to as soon as the springtime permits of it. Since my last report one Indian has erected a new dwelling, which when finished will cost at least \$1,000; at the present time it is well advanced.

Temperance and morality.—The habits and morals of these Indians are good.

Education.—A few children occasionally attend the free school in the district. Others, owing to their peculiar habits, cannot be induced to attend school.

Religion.—All these Indians are Roman Catholics. Their spiritual affairs are attended to by the Rev. L. C. Damour, of Edmundston.

Tobique Band.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the junction of the Tobique and St. John rivers in Victoria county. It consists of about fifteen thousand acres of farming and forest lands. The lands north of Tobique river are very fertile, free from stone, and well adapted for farming. The land south of Tobique river, owing to hills and its uneven nature, is not, unless in certain sections equal to the first named land for farming, but is noted for the fine growth of timber thereon.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is one hundred and ninety-five, a decrease of three for the past year.

Resources and Occupations.—The resources from which the Indians derive their living are farming, acting as guides, work in the woods, stream driving, rafting lumber, and running rafts from Tobique river to Fredericton. Acting as guides in season, is engaged in by the majority of the band. As a rule, work such as referred to, is plentiful in this section of New Brunswick, and the services of Indians are in good demand at the best wages. Others of the band give considerable attention to farming. Their crops are principally oats, potatoes, buckwheat, turnips and hay, and are a fair average. They are owners of some fine horses and cattle.

Health and Sanitation.—During the year the band was subject more or less to sickness of an ordinary nature. During last fall many of the children suffered from an epidemic similar to measles. Happily there were no fatal results. Although many parts of this province have been visited by smallpox, I am pleased to report that none of this band as yet have been stricken with the disease. With reference to the sanitary condition of the reserve, I may say that every part of the same is in good condition. The dwellings and premises of the Indians are clean. The water-supply for domestic use is carried from boiling springs at the rear of the reserve by two aqueducts, so that everything has been done to protect the health of the Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—The majority of the Indians avoid the use of intoxicants. There are, however, a class that will, at times, indulge too freely in the use of liquor. In morals their habits are good.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. They pride themselves on their church, a neatly finished edifice, which they attend regularly. The Rev. M. A. O'Keefe, parish priest of Grand Falls, attends to their spiritual affairs.

Education.—The day school is under the supervision of Miss Priscilla M. Goodine. The attendance of pupils for the year has been fairly good. The studies taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and English. The children are making very good progress.

General remarks.—The Indians of this reserve are an active and industrious class. During the fishing and hunting season their services are recognized in a substantial way by tourists, who visit this section of the province yearly. Their relations with their white neighbours are peaceable and friendly.

Woodstock Band.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated three miles below the town of Woodstock, and fronts on the St. John river. It consists of two hundred acres, of which thirty acres are farming and pasture lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population, including Indians of Upper Woodstock, is seventy-two, an increase of six for the past year.

Resources and Occupations.—The industries engaged in by this band, are the manufacture of Indian wares, working in

the woods, stream-driving and farming. Farming by these Indians is very limited, and is simply confined to the raising of sufficient potatoes, oats and garden produce to meet their wants. Most of them prefer any other employment to farming.

Health and Sanitation.—During the greater part of the year the health of the Indians has been remarkably good. Since June 1, however, a disease broke out amongst them that is at present declared by their physician to be small-pox. The disease, I am pleased to report, is of a very mild type, and all these affected are recovering. The sanitary condition of the band has been carefully attended to in season, and in no way is accountable for the sickness referred to, as it was carried to the reserve by the Indians who were working with men on the lumber drives who had the disease.

Temperance and Morality.—A few of the band at rare times will indulge in the use of intoxicants. The majority of them are total abstainers. The morals of all are exceptionally good.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve, but there is a free school in the vicinity which the children are welcome to attend, but, owing to their peculiarity of character, they will not take advantage of the facilities offered.

Religion.—All the Indians are Roman Catholics. Their spiritual affairs are attended to by the Rev. Father Chapman, of Woodstock.

Kingsclear Band.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the parish of Kingsclear. It consists of four hundred and sixty acres, of which one hundred are farming and pasture lands. The remainder is forest lands, from which the Indians procure firewood.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is one hundred and thirteen, an increase of four for the past year.

Resources and Occupations.—The industries from which the band derive a livelihood are the manufacture of Indian wares, milling, rafting, lumbering, stream-driving, working in the woods and farming. All the young men of the band devote their whole time to labouring work, and receive good wages therefrom. The elderly men of the band who remain on the reserve follow the industry of manufacturing Indian wares, and farming; a few of them are the owners of some good horses and cattle. Owing, however, to the time occupied at other employment, farming is only done to a limited extent.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians for the past year has been remarkably good. A few deaths occurred, chiefly from consumption. No disease of a contagious nature appeared amongst them. All their dwellings and outside buildings are erected on the slope of a hill fronting on the St. John river. The sanitary conditions in connection therewith, owing to the removal of winter refuse, and the natural lay of the land, is extra good.

Temperance and Morality.—Their habits in these respects are good and most satisfactory.

Education.—The day school on the reserve is taught by Miss Mary C. Monaghan. The parents take a deep interest in educational affairs; hence their children are regular attendants, and are making marked progress in their respective studies.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. The church at which they are regular attendants, is on the reserve. Their spiritual affairs are carefully attended to by the Rev. Father LeBlanc.

General Remarks.—The Indians of this reserve are an industrious class. They live in a friendly way with each other and are respected by their white neighbours.

St. Mary's Band.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in St.

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Mary's parish, directly opposite the city of Fredericton, and consists of only two acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is one hundred and seventeen, a decrease of six for the year, due to the removal of Indians to other parts of the agency.

Resources and Occupations.—The principal employments engaged in by these Indians are milling, stream-driving, working in the woods, loading boats and scows along the river, acting as guides, cutting cord-wood, erecting summer camps in the suburbs for the residents of Fredericton. Only a few of the band pursue the Indian ware industry, and with the exception of planting a few garden patches, no farming is engaged in. Work in summer is plentiful at good wages. In winter it is rather dull, hence the time for assistance from the department, especially for the sick and aged, as very little is stored away from the summer earnings.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band, considering the fact that the reserve is over-crowded with dwellings and other buildings, is good. These Indians have not been visited by any disease of a contagious nature. Sanitary measures suggested by the department were attended to by these Indians in the latter part of May last.

Temperance and Morality.—The majority of these Indians avoid the use of intoxicants. There are, however, quite a number of them that are given very much to intemperance. Arrests and imprisonment seem to make but little improvement in this. The surroundings and location of the reserve are not in the best interest of Indian life and habits.

Education.—There is a day school on this reserve. The teacher is Miss Maria J. Rosh. The attendance for the year was fairly good. Seemingly more interest is manifested by parents in the schooling of their children than in former years.

Religion.—All the Indians are Roman Catholics; their spiritual affairs are attended to by the Rev. Father Ryan of St. Mary's parish.

Oromocto Band.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at Oromocto, eleven miles below Fredericton. It fronts on the St. John river, and contains one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, of which thirty-two are farming and pasture lands, whilst the remainder is forest land covered with a good growth of timber and firewood.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is sixty-two, a decrease of two for the past year.

Resources and Occupations.—The occupations from which this band derives a living are the manufacture of Indian wares, hunting, stream-driving, cutting cord-wood, farming and working for the residents of Oromocto village. Farming is confined mostly to the raising of potatoes and some garden vegetables; these supply their wants.

Health and Sanitation.—No disease of a contagious nature appeared amongst them during the past year, and apart from sickness of the ordinary kind that most Indians are subject to, the health of the band has been good. Sanitary regulations have been attended to and the reserve is in a good sanitary condition.

Beauty is born in the blood. Beauty is more than "skin deep." It is blood deep. When the blood is tainted by disease the flesh will feel it and the skin will show it. Sallow or muddy complexions, pimples, blotches and eruptions are only the surface signs of impure blood. Face washer, lotions, complexion powders, may palliate the evils but they cannot cure the disease. The only cure is to cleanse the blood of the poisonous matter which is the cause of the outbreak in the flesh and skin. Impure blood can be absolutely purified by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Its effect on flesh and skin is marked. Sores heal and disappear. The skin becomes smooth, and regains its natural color. The eyes brighten and sparkle, the whole body is radiant with the brightness and beauty of health. "Golden Medical Discovery" contains no alcohol, whisky or other intoxicant, and is absolutely free from opium, cocaine and other narcotics. The use of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets assists the action of the "Discovery," by cleansing the system of clogging matter.

Temperance and Morality.—The habits of the Indians are good and, except on very rare occasions, they avoid the use of intoxicants.

Education.—None of the children will attend the public school in the vicinity of the reserve, owing to their peculiar manners and refusal to mix with the white children.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. There is a church in the vicinity of the reserve at which they are regular attendants. Their spiritual affairs are attended to by Rev. Father McDermott.

General Remarks.—The remainder of the Indians of this supervision are settled at several villages in the counties of Queen's, King's, St. John and Charlotte. The occupations from which they earn a living are much the same as those of other parts of the agency. Their object in camping in scattered sections of the counties named, is that they find ready sales for their wares among the villagers and tourists that visit those places. In King's county the same rule exists. In several villages and settlements extending from Rothesay to Sussex, Indians of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and the northern part of New Brunswick are to be found settled and carrying on the same business as the Amalectes of the St. John river. In conclusion I am pleased to report that in mode of living and the general habits of the Indians, a vast improvement is to be seen when compared with former years. I have, &c.,
JAMES FARRELL,
Indian Agent.

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