

ers at the agency, having come to the wise conclusion that it is better to remain quietly at home than to go on the warpath.

A boarding-school has been established which, commencing with three scholars, gradually increased until at the close of the session there were twenty-seven children in attendance. The agent, in his report, expresses the opinion that "this school is the very foundation of the civilization of these two bands of Indians, and its success is consequently of greater importance than any other matter connected with the agency." The success of the same is so far assured that more pupils will probably be furnished the present fall than can be accommodated.

The 1,040 Shoshones and 460 Bannocks at this agency have 460 acres of land in cultivation, upon which they have raised this year 5,750 bushels of wheat, 1,025 bushels oats and barley, 3,500 bushels vegetables, and 180 tons of hay. In addition to the above, 42,000 feet of saw-logs have been cut in the mountains, hauled to the saw-mill, and converted into lumber by the Indians, with the assistance of a sawyer, who ran the machinery of the mill.

Two dwelling-houses and eight granaries have been erected during the year, in the building of which the Indians have performed much of the labor. There have also been erected a dwelling-house for the farmer, 24 by 40, an addition to the commissary, 20 by 40, and an extension to the ice-house, 20 by 12.

#### AGENCIES IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

Whatever changes have occurred among the tribes in the Indian Territory during the year have been in the line of improvement. At the Quapaw Agency the necessity for issues of rations, except to the aged and helpless, ceased long since. The Indians of the eight small tribes belonging thereto wear citizens' dress, are comfortably housed, have ample school facilities, and are virtually civilized. But though they have reached the position of self-support, they have not acquired self-reliance, and the watchful care of the government must not cease for several years to come. Schools must be supported, employes furnished, implements repaired and occasionally replaced, buildings must be kept in order, and the whole machinery of an agency must be continued; otherwise from the money and labor expended in the past will be realized merely a temporary instead of a permanent good.

The Absentee Shawnees of the Sac and Fox Agency may be included in the above classification, but the conservative Sac and Fox, and the restless Mexican Kickapoos, although they have learned to depend on farming for about half of their subsistence, are very slow to adopt civilized dress and customs, and the aversion of the latter to both houses and schools is yet to be overcome.

The Poncas are referred to at length on page xxxv.

The Nez Percés, attached to the Ponca Agency, are especially interested in the day school which has been opened among them, and which

is taught by James Reuben, a full blooded Nez Percé Indian, who received his education at the Nez Percé Agency in Idaho. He is entirely devoted to the best interests of the tribe, labors among them as missionary as well as teacher, holds intelligent religious services on the Sabbath, which are well attended, and in every respect exerts an admirable influence. The grace with which the Nez Percés are submitting to the inevitable, and the prosperous condition to which they may and probably will soon attain, is shown by the following extract from the annual report of Agent Whiting:

When the facilities to work with are taken in consideration, the Nez Percés have made good progress the present year. With only twenty-three teams at their disposal, they hauled all of their supplies one hundred miles from terminus of railroad, besides breaking one hundred acres of prairie, and hauling logs for houses. They have more garden vegetables, potatoes, melons, &c., of their own raising than they can make use of, and they have asked for wheat to sow this fall.

The ninety-six head of two-year-old heifers and four bulls received for the Nez Percés were issued to them July 20, 1880. The Indians are taking excellent care of their cattle, and appear to be natural herders, and show more judgment in the management of their stock than any Indians I ever saw. We are now sawing out lumber for the purpose of erecting houses for Indians, and I hope to have them all comfortably housed before cold weather.

The Nez Percés are an intelligent, religious, and industrious people, ready and willing to work and help themselves, and if agricultural implements, sufficient stock to work their land, and seeds are furnished them, they will do much towards supporting themselves another year.

The Pawnees are slow to renounce the life and habits of the Indian, and but a small proportion have yet adopted civilized dress or exchanged their tepees for houses. Farms are principally worked by the bands in common, and the crops are divided according to the labor performed. Several individuals, however, have undertaken independent farming, and their example will be followed by others until the clannishness of the tribe is gradually broken down. Their crops, consisting of 1,980 bushels of wheat and 4,000 bushels of corn, will relieve the government of nearly one-fourth of their support.

In school matters they are more progressive, and have sent 120 children to the boarding school. In complying with the educational terms of the treaty, the Pawnees have been much more faithful than the government. According to the treaty, "the United States agree to establish among them two manual-labor boarding schools, and the President of the United States, if he deem it necessary, may increase the number to four. The Pawnees, on their part, agree that each and every one of their children between the ages of seven and eighteen shall be kept constantly at these schools for at least nine months in each year." The chiefs are to be held responsible for the attendance of orphans, and failure or refusal of the parents to keep their children in school is punishable by deduction from the annuities. The establishment of another boarding school is not considered advisable at present, but the opening of four day schools, one in each band, as proposed by the agent, will nearly fulfill the conditions