

Indian Territory. When I removed the balance of the tribe to this reservation, that part of the tribe already in the Territory, under the leadership of two old chiefs, Medicine Horse and Heth-ca-mone, flatly refused to come and live on the reservation, claiming that it was not the land they wanted, and that they could find that which suited them better farther south, since which time they have led a precarious existence in the vicinity of the Sac and Fox Agency. This matter of the final disposition of absentee Otoes is now before the Department, and I trust will reach a speedy settlement. I am ready to co-operate at any time in any arrangement that may be decided upon for a satisfactory conclusion of the matter.

NEZ PERCÉS OF JOSEPH'S BAND.

There is but little change to note in the condition or progress of these Indians during the past year. They are a quiet, peaceable, and fairly industrious people, and the better element among them is rapidly becoming civilized. All labor more or less toward their support, and, besides what they realize from agricultural pursuits and the produce of their gardens, have obtained a large amount in cash from the manufacture and sale of Indian curiosities and trinkets, such as bows and arrows, moccasins, gloves, &c., which they make in a tasteful manner.

The number of acres cultivated by the Indians during the year was slightly less than for the preceding year, but the net result of their labor will show well, amounting to 254 bushels of wheat, 1,455 bushels of corn, 200 bushels of potatoes and onions, and 8,500 melons.

The day school, under charge of James Reubens, was carried on with its usual success until the end of May, when Mr. Reubens dismissed the scholars, closed the school, and, by permission of the Department, started for Idaho with 29 Nez Percés, mostly the widows and orphans of those who were killed during their war. The school will be reopened on September 1, under charge of a white teacher, and I anticipate good results for the coming year, as these children are eager and quick to learn and of more than the average intelligence. The matter of building a new school-house is now before the Department, and as the foundation is already laid and much of the required material on the ground, but little additional expense will be incurred in its construction. The services in the Presbyterian Church, under charge of Rev. Archie Lawyer, a Nez Percé, are well attended by the Indians.

In conclusion, I will say that I have much to praise and but little to find fault with in the behavior of the Indians under my charge during the past year. They have done well, and I feel assured will steadily do better each succeeding year in their progress toward civilization, which, in a comparatively few years, must so reach and surround them as to overwhelm their existence as separate communities.

The agency employés have faithfully and cheerfully performed all duties allotted to them, and have assisted me to the extent of their abilities. I wish particularly to allude to the important services rendered to this agency by H. H. Arthur, superintendent and clerk, and Capt. Rees Pickering, clerk in charge at Pawnee, both of whom, by the knowledge gained from long experience in the Indian service, have been of invaluable assistance to me in conducting the affairs of the agency. L. E. Woodin, jr., clerk in charge at Otoe, and Dr. James S. Woodward, superintendent and physician at Oakland, have also performed excellent service in charge of their respective reservations.

Very respectfully,

LEWELLYN E. WOODIN,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

QUAPAW AGENCY, INDIAN TERRITORY,
August 16, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to present this my fourth annual report, in compliance with instructions contained in yours of July 13, 1883.

This agency embraces 202,298 acres, and is situated in the extreme northeast corner of the Indian Territory, adjoining the States of Kansas and Missouri. It is divided into seven reservations, and peopled by the following tribes, viz: Quapaws, Peorias, Miamies, Ottawas, Wyandotts, Shawnees, Modocs, and Senecas, numbering in all 1,071; besides 29 Pottawatomies and 13 Cherokee Shawnees, who are making their homes here, but have no rights.

This locality is one of the loveliest regions under the genial southwestern skies. Though the surface of the agency is generally undulating, there are some portions of it considerably elevated; the highest points are found along the eastern border, and