

SESSIONAL PAPERS.

VOLUME 13.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT

OF THE

DOMINION OF CANADA.

SESSION 1889.



VOLUME XXII.

have attended at all regularly. There are thirty-four children on the roll and an average attendance of a little over sixteen for the year. The children are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, Canadian history, drawing, object lessons, spelling, dictation, knitting and sewing. The girls have knit fifteen pairs of stockings, fifteen pairs of mits, fifteen pairs of cuffs and have made nineteen aprons. The pupils show a great improvement in order, neatness and obedience, and in their studies, singing and reading. A portion of scripture; repeating the commandments and prayer form the opening and closing exercises of the school.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

D. J. McPHEE,
Indian Agent.

INDIAN OFFICE, VICTORIA, B.C., 22nd October, 1888.

The Honorable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit the following report upon Indian affairs in this Province for the year ended 30th June, 1888.

During the above mentioned period the general and sanitary condition of the Indians has not been so satisfactory as in past years, owing to circumstances which were entirely beyond their control.

In the month of October the various members of the bands who had visited the United States Territory for the purpose of picking hops, returned to their villages, having contracted the measles, which quickly spread and lasted through a great portion of the winter, consequently the West Coast, Cowichan, Nanaimo and Nass River Indians, were great sufferers from the epidemic, which carried off a large number of children and some adults. Also in the Okanagan and Kamloops districts quite a number of deaths occurred from pulmonary consumption and typhoid fever, which the agent states has caused a decrease in their numbers. On the Lower Fraser River. Mr. Agent McTiernan reports the health of the Indians to have been excellent, with the exception of the Sliammon and Sechelt Bands, among whom measles and whooping cough were prevalent, and many children died therefrom.

On the west coast of Vancouver Island the seal hunting industry received a check last season by the seizure of several of the schooners employed in that business by the American cruisers in Behring Sea, and during last spring the catch of seals was limited owing to stormy and wet weather, but Mr. Agent Guillod reports that the total hunt amounted to about 16,000 skins, for which the natives received \$2 each. In the Cowichan District the agricultural returns were fair, although not equal in some articles to the past season. On the Lower Fraser, the agent's statistics show a large quantity of grain and roots harvested, with considerable increase in stock. This is the more remarkable, as these Indians have many other ways of making a good living, and are not confined to agricultural pursuits like their brothers in the interior.

In the Kamloops and Okanagan districts the agricultural returns are short of the preceding year, owing to the dry season and want of water for irrigation. The Spallumcheen and N-kamaplix Indians, however, had crops above the general average, the son of the chief of the latter reserve having harvested twenty-six tons of wheat. The salmon run in these agencies was very light, but on the whole the Indians have had a fair and prosperous season.

In the past summer the mange broke out amongst the horses of the Nicola valley, and at one time almost threatened to exterminate the breed, but by a liberal grant from the Department and the untiring exertions of Mr. Agent Mackay, the

On the 12th the work of re-defining the boundaries of the Stony Reserve was commenced and is still in progress.

In conclusion I beg to state that the marking of the corners of reserves, by large iron posts, is having a good effect on the Indians; as it tends to remove any doubts they may have entertained in regard to the durability of their titles to the land.

Sketches illustrating this report, will be submitted at an early date.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN C. NELSON,

In charge of Indian Reserve Surveys.

VICTORIA, B.C., 20th November, 1888.

The Honorable

The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward the following report covering the past season's work. In obedience to instructions I left Victoria on the 27th of April for the north coast of Vancouver Island, to complete the survey of the Nawhitt Reserves, and arrived at Hope Island on the 4th of May. Leaving a portion of my camp on Hope Island, I started the following day for Cape Scott and camped in a small bay on the eastern shore. High winds and rain set in, and for a week I was unable to go out in the canoe. Seeing that there was no chance of getting round, I returned to Hope Island and finished the traverse of that, and calm weather setting in I was able to run up and finish the reserves on the western shore of Vancouver Island for the Nawhitt tribe. I then returned down the coast and completed the Mateelthpe Reserve at Port Neville, and went on to Salmon River to work on the Euclataw Reserves. These being very scattered much time was consumed in moving from place to place.

Receiving further instructions early in August, I proceeded to Harwood Island and surveyed that and the reserve on the mainland shore for the Sliammon tribe, and then went on to Cortez Island, where I surveyed two reserves at Squirrel Cove for the Klahoose Indians. I lost some time here, being short handed, my head chain-man having met with a severe accident, I had to send him and another man to Victoria. Finding some men at Comox I moved over to Forbes' Bay, surveyed that reserve and went on to the head of Toba Inlet. This is the most important and the largest of the Klahoose Reserves, but although the land is good in places, it is too wet to admit of successful cultivation. Leaving in October, I started for the Homalco Reserves at Bute Inlet, stopping at Salmon Bay and Redonda Island to survey reserves at these places. Having completed the reserve at Orford Bay on Bute Inlet, I decided not to go to the head, the weather being broken and wet. On my way down I surveyed two reserves for the Homalco and one for the Klahoose, completing all for the latter tribe. I then moved down to Smelt Bay on Cortez Island, and having finished the reserve at that place, came down to Victoria *via* Comox and Nanaimo, arriving on the 17th of November. I enclose schedule of reserves surveyed, which will, I hope, be found satisfactory.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. M. SKINNER.

No. 10. A Reserve of eight hundred and thirty acres, situated on the western shore of Okanagan Lake, about four miles north of Reserve No. 9.

Commencing at a pine tree, marked "Indian's Reserves," and running west sixty chains; thence north one hundred and twenty chains; thence east to the Okanagan Lake, and thence following the shore of the said lake in a southerly direction to the place of commencement.

Twenty-five inches of water from the creek flowing into Okanagan Lake near the northern boundary of the reserve is allotted to the use of the Indians.

P. O'REILLY, *Indian Reserve Commissioner.*

OKANAGAN, B.C., 19th October, 1888.

INDIAN RESERVE COMMISSION,

VICTORIA, B. C., 8th December, 1888.

The Honorable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that in accordance with your instructions, I left Victoria on the 2nd of August for the purpose of defining reserves for the several tribes of Indians inhabiting portions of the North-West Coast extending from Harwood Island, in the Strait of Georgia, to Portland Canal.

At Nanaimo, accompanied by Mr. Ashdown Green, surveyor to the Commission, I joined the steamer "Sir James Douglas," which had been placed at my disposal for this service by the Honorable Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

The first tribe visited was the Sliammon, whose principal village is on the coast of the mainland, one and a-half miles east of Harwood Island; this is also the winter residence of the Klahoose and Homalco tribes.

The official census gives the population of the Sliammons at 317.

These Indians cultivate small patches of land on Harwood Island, and also at some of their fisheries. Their staple food is fish, of which they have an abundance. They are possessed of eighty cattle and ten sheep. After consultation with two of the chiefs and a number of the people, I reserved for the use of this tribe the following plots of land, viz.:—

No. 1. Sliammon contains 1,930 acres, heavily timbered. The land is of poor quality, and with the exception of a few patches no attempt has been made at cultivation. About fifty acres is covered with large cedar of good quality. In a bay near the north-west corner of the reserve a large quantity of herring spawn is taken annually, an article of barter much prized by the Indians. The village contains forty-seven substantially built houses, in the centre of which stands the Roman Catholic Church, to which denomination these people belong.

No. 2. Harwood Islands contains 2,075 acres, the greater part being fairly good soil; about 50 acres is open land, which is used by the Indians as a run for their cattle and sheep. The western portion is densely timbered with fir and spruce.

No. 3. Pauk-e-a-num, a reserve of 200 acres, situated in Smelt Bay, Cortes Island. Two families reside here; they have a small orchard and gardens; about six acres in all may be cultivated. Its principal value to the Indians is as a dog fish station.

No. 4. To-kiva-na, a reserve at the head of Theodosia Arm, contains 430 acres. A good salmon stream flows through the entire length of this reserve. Fifty acres might, if cleared, be cultivated with advantage, the remainder is covered with spruce of large growth, and is subject to overflow.

No. 5. To-ke-natch, a reserve of 50 acres, is situated at the head of Okeover Arm, and adjoins the Moodyville Saw Mill Company's claim; it is of no value except as a fishing station.

No. 6. Kakh-ay-kay, a reserve on Gifford Peninsula, contains 36 acres. It is nearly all rock; a few houses have, however, been built there for the purpose of fishing.

On the 7th August I visited the Klahoose tribe, whose village is situated at the head of Toba Inlet, and explained to the chief, Joseph, and his people, who number 122, the object of my coming, at which he expressed himself much pleased. With his assistance I laid out the following reserves :—

No. 1. Klahoose, situated on the river of that name at the head of Toba Inlet, contains 2,395 acres. This place is of special value to the Indians as an oolachan and salmon fishery, besides which cranberries are gathered in large quantities. Hay may be cut on about 100 acres, otherwise the reserve is valueless being subject to deep overflow.

No. 2. A burial ground containing $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres, situated on the western shore of Toba Inlet, about a mile south-west of Reserve No. 1.

No. 3. A reserve of 200 acres, situated at the head of Salmon Bay, Toba Inlet. Salmon and herring are both taken here in considerable quantities. There is some good timber on this reserve, though not of large size. The soil is light, sandy and of poor quality.

No. 4. Si-a-Kin, a fishing station opposite Dean Point on Waddington Channel. It contains 8 acres, and is a good dog-fish station, but valueless for any other purpose.

No. 5. Deep Valley, on the eastern shore of Ramsay Arm. This reserve contains 70 acres, principally low land covered with cedar and spruce. A portion of it can be cleared and cultivated. It is a valuable salmon fishery.

No. 6. Que-qua on the eastern shore of Lewis Channel contains 6 acres, nearly all rock, and is used as a camping ground while fishing.

No. 7. Tork, a reserve of 650 acres situated in Squirrel Cove, Cortes Island. A few Indians live here, who have laid claim to this land for many years. Except for the timber upon it, it is of no value.

No. 8. This Reserve is also situated in Squirrel Cove. It contains 43 acres, and was once the site of an Indian village; it is almost deserted now, and is only used by a few families during the fishing season.

No. 9. Ah-po-cum, a reserve situated at Forbes Bay, Homfray Channel, containing 70 acres of fairly good soil. It is lightly timbered, and might easily be cleared and cultivated with advantage.

The stream which flows through the reserve abounds in salmon.

Having completed the reserves for the Klahoose band of Indians, I proceeded without loss of time to Bute Inlet, where, on the 10th August, I met the chief, Timothy, and most of the Indians of the Homalco tribe.

According to the official census this band numbers 74. They were much pleased at the prospect of having their reserves defined, and took great interest in pointing out the several places they wished to have secured for their use. With their assistance I made the following reserves, viz. :—

No. 1. Homalco on the right bank of the Homalco river, at the head of Bute Inlet. This reserve contains 1,100 acres, of which about 200 acres is good open land, with only a heavy crop of fern to interfere with its immediate cultivation.

There is an excellent range for a limited number of cattle, and an abundance of hay may be obtained from the low lands near the mouth of the river. There is also an abundant supply of good timber. This is the only reserve, and I believe the only place in the district, where agriculture can be carried on extensively with any prospect of success.

No. 2, a reserve of 32 acres, situated on the right bank of the Homalco River, and opposite to Reserve No. 1. Upon this the summer village of the tribe stands. The Indians cultivate a few gardens here; the soil is fairly good, though heavily timbered.

This reserve is a part of the old town site of Waddington, the title to which however was never completed, and it has long since been abandoned.

No. 3, a burial ground containing half an acre, situated at Potato Point, at the head of Bute Inlet.

No. 4, Oxford Bay, situated on the eastern shore of Bute Inlet, about 20 miles from its head, contains 680 acres. Large quantities of salmon are obtained from the river the entire length of the reserve. The soil is for the most part poor, and subject to overflow, and with the exception of a few acres, is unsuitable for cultivation. It is well timbered, and the Indians value it highly for the quantities of berries that they procure here. This is also the outlet of some of the best hunting grounds in this part of the country.

No. 5, Mush-Ting, a fishing station of 10 acres on the west shore of Bute Inlet, about one mile south of Stuart Island. There is on it a small quantity of excellent land suitable for gardens.

No. 6, Aup, a well sheltered spot at the entrance to Bute Inlet near Bartlett Island, upon which ten small houses stand. There is plenty of timber for fuel, in other respects it is valueless. This reserve contains 25 acres.

The few white men resident in this district speak highly of the Sliammon, Klahoose and Homalco tribes. They are industrious and find employment readily in the logging camps, and also in the canneries on the Fraser River. Their fisheries and hunting grounds are of great value to them. This district is however very barren, and there is no possibility of procuring agricultural land, except the small quantity at Homalco, previously referred to, otherwise I had no difficulty in assigning the several reserves set apart for these tribes.

The Indians expressed themselves highly satisfied with the allotments made for their use, and the prospect of the reserves being speedily surveyed.

All the reserves above referred to are situated in the New Westminster Agency.

Herewith I enclose minutes of decision and sketches of the several plots of land enumerated in this report.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. O'REILLY,

Indian Reserve Commissioner.

MINUTES OF DECISIONS.

Homalco Indians.

10th August, 1888.

No. 1, Homalco, a reserve of 1,100 acres, situated on the right bank of the Homalco River, near its mouth.

Commencing at a post on the right bank of the Homalco River, marked "Indian Reserve" and running west eighty chains; thence north to the said river, and thence down stream to the point of commencement.

No. 2, Reserve of thirty-two acres, situated on the left bank of the Homalco opposite to Reserve No. 1.

Commencing at a spruce, marked "Indian Reserve" and running east ten chains; thence north twenty chains; thence west to the Homalco River, and thence down stream to the place of commencement.

No. 3, a Graveyard containing about half an acre situated at Potato Point at the head of Bute Inlet.

No. 4 Oxford Bay, a reserve of 680 acres, situated at the head of Oxford Bay, Bute Inlet.

Commencing at a post, marked "Indian Reserve" and running east fifty chains; thence north ten chains; thence east forty chains; thence north ten chains; thence east twenty chains; thence north thirty chains; thence east twenty chains; thence north thirty chains; thence west thirty chains; thence north twenty chains; thence west thirty chains; thence south twenty chains; thence west thirty chains; thence south twenty chains; thence west thirty chains; thence south to the sea coast, and thence following the shore in a southerly direction to the place of commencement.

No. 6, Que-qua, a reserve of six acres, situated on the eastern shore of Lewis Channel and west of Nipple Summit.

Commencing at a cedar, marked "Indian Reserve," and running east ten chains thence south to the sea coast, and thence following the shore in a north-westerly direction to the place of commencement.

No. 7, Tork, a reserve of six hundred and fifty acres, situated on the western shore of Squirrel Cove, Cortes Island, opposite Boulder Point.

Commencing at a point on the sea coast, on the northern boundary of the Moodyville Saw Mill Company's application to purchase, and running west one hundred chains; thence north ninety chains; thence east to the sea shore, and thence following the coast in a south-westerly direction to the place of commencement.

No. 8. A reserve of forty-three acres, situated on the northern shore of Squirrel Cove, Cortes Island.

Commencing at a willow, marked "Indian Reserve," and running north twenty chains; thence east to the sea coast, and thence following the sea shore in a southerly and westerly direction to the place of commencement.

No. 9, Ah-po-cum, a reserve of seventy acres, situated at the head of Forbes Bay, Homfray Channel.

Commencing at a cedar, marked "Indian Reserve," and running east twenty chains; thence north thirty chains; thence west to the sea coast, and thence following the shore in a southerly direction to the place of commencement.

P. O'REILLY,
Indian Reserve Commissioner.

MINUTES OF DECISION.

Sliammon Indians.

6th August, 1888.

No. 1, Sliammons, a reserve 1,930 acres, situated about a half mile east of Harwood Island.

Commencing at the north-west corner of lot 450, group 1, coast district, and running N. 30 E. (may be) ninety chains to the northern corner of the said lot; thence north eighty chains; thence west 210 chains; thence north thirty chains; thence west thirty chains; thence south to the seacoast, and thence following the shore in a south-easterly direction to the place of commencement.

No. 2, Harwood Island, situated about three miles north of Texada Island, and containing about 2,075 acres, is also assigned to the use of the Indians.

No. 3, Pank-e-a-num, a reserve of 200 acres, situated in smelt bay, on the western shore of Cortes Island.

Commencing at a cedar, marked "Indian Reserve," and running east forty chains; thence south forty chains; thence west to the sea shore, and thence following the coast in a northerly direction to the place of commencement.

No. 4, To-kiv-no, a reserve of 400 acres, situated at the head of Theodosia Arm, Malaspina Inlet.

Commencing at the south-west corner of lot 525, coast district, and running east forty chains; thence south forty chains; thence west to the sea coast to a point hereafter called "A"; returning to the aforesaid south-west corner of lot 525, and running west seventy chains; thence south to the sea coast, and thence following the shore in an easterly direction to the before-mentioned point "A."

No. 5, To-ke-natch, a reserve of 50 acres, situated at Freke Anchorage, Okeover Arm, Malaspina Inlet.

Commencing at the most northern north-west corner post of lot 500, Coast District, and running north eight chains; thence west to the seashore to a point called

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"A"; returning to the aforesaid north-west corner post of lot 500, and running south twelve chains; thence west thirty chains; thence north to the sea shore, and thence following the coast in an easterly direction to the beforementioned point "A"

No. 6. Kahk-ay-Kay, a reserve of thirty-six acres, situated on Gifford Peninsula, on the northern shore of Malaspina Inlet.

Commencing at a fir, marked "Indian Reserve," and running north twenty chains; thence west twenty chains; thence south to the sea coast, and thence following the shore in an easterly direction to the place of commencement.

P. O'REILLY,

Indian Reserve Commissioner.

NORTH-WEST COAST INDIAN AGENCY,
METLAKATLA, B.C., 1st November, 1888.

The Honorable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward my report as acting Indian Agent covering a period of twelve months from 1st November, 1887, until 1st November, 1888.

Upon my arrival here I was very well received and welcomed by both Indians and white settlers, with the exception of the Fort Simpson Indians and such of the Naas River Indians as are under the teaching and influence of Messrs. Crosby and Green.

During last winter I attended many Indian social festivals at Metlakatla, where Indians from many parts of this district assembled, and where I had an excellent opportunity of explaining the true position of matters respecting Indians, their lands and the functions and jurisdiction of the Government and of the Indian Department: Wherever the Indians have had a fair and true explanation of these matters, even after having been prejudiced against the Indian Act, they acknowledge that it is a good law.

Some of the Indians have mentioned examples of the teaching they have had respecting the Indian Act, such as the 63rd section of the Act of 1884 being read by itself, without reference to the interpretation clause respecting "person," and other sections misapplied in a similar manner to prove the oft-repeated assertion that "under the Indian Act the Indians will be slaves to the agent."

During the months of May and June last at the desire of the Superintendent, I left my work on the seaboard and accompanied a party of Provincial special police to the interior on the Skeena River.

The few Indians to be met with at that season of the year on the upper river seemed to be pleased to see me, although I was deemed the leader of a hostile force. They requested me to come again, often, and arrange about the land to be reserved for them.

The Reserve Commissioner has not yet visited the upper Skeena.

Owing to the time required for making this excursion I have been unable to do necessary work as promised among the Hydah Indians of Queen Charlotte's Islands.

The Kimsquatt Indians, residing at the head of Dean's Channel, 90 miles from the coast line, have been visited twice this year, and building materials for twenty-eight houses furnished to this tribe as a gift from the Indian Department. The chiefs and headmen expressed their thanks to the Government, but state that they would have preferred only part of the appropriation expended in building materials to repair their present dwelling houses, and the balance expended for the purchase of tools and white people's food and clothing.

These Indians have had no good teachers or preachers amongst them yet. They are, however, much more respectful and obedient than the more civilized and christianized Indians on the coast line.

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