

The Indian Reserves in British Columbia are in a very unsatisfactory condition, being small and insufficient, and in many cases not valuable, 20 acres for each head of a family was the quantity finally agreed upon between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, but the Provincial Government consider this to apply to future reserves only, and as many existing reserves do not contain two acres to a family, the allotment of reserves has consequently been suspended, and a good deal of irritation is felt by the Indians.

Considerable advance has been made in agriculture by several of the bands, especially at Cowichan, on Vancouver Island, and on the Lower Fraser, on the Komloops reserve, 60 acres of grain were sown. The Indians on the west coast of Vancouver, had never made any attempt to grow crops till the present year, but a judicious present of spades, hoes, &c. being made, they have commenced clearing available patches with a view to cultivation. They have very little prairie land, their land being chiefly dense, heavily timbered forest. On the N. W. coast of the mainland and Q. Charlotte's Island the country near the coast is rocky and thick with pines, but the natives grow potatoes on old village sites and along the banks of the streams. Here the sea and rivers teem with fish at all seasons.

At Cowichan and on the Lower Fraser, the Indians are beginning to purchase and breed horses and cattle; and in the Interior, there is great scarcity of grazing lands for their stock, which is counted by the thousand, and an addition of pastoral tracts is necessary besides the 20 acres set apart for each family.

The Songees Reserve, near Victoria is very valuable, but useless for the Indians from its proximity to the city. The sale of

this and removal of the Indians to a more suitable location is earnestly recommended. Even reserves on the mainland and nine on the Island have been divided into 20 acre allotments, but a large part of the land is of poor quality, and extensive additions will be necessary.

Fish is the staple product of all the coast Indians. All kinds are found in great abundance, but the six varieties of salmon give the most constant article of diet. The dog fish yields large quantities of oil. The export of fish oil and furs almost entirely obtained by Indians amounted in 1874 to \$352,078, and that of cranberries to \$2,000. Very few schools have as yet been established—9 were aided with grants in 1874, and the number is likely to be increased.

The recent Dominion Liquor Law has given a great blow to the Whiskey traffic and the penalty having been fully exacted, has had a most beneficial effect; but from recent information received, it appears that the Alaska Indians are extensively engaged in the manufacture of Whiskey from molasses or sugar and potatoes and such berries as are to be found during the summer months, and have communicated a knowledge of its manufacture to the Queen Charlotte's Island Indians and some tribes on the mainland. All liquor being by the U. S. Government excluded from Alaska, it seems the soldiers stationed at Sitka, began to make it for themselves and taught the secret to the natives, who find it profitable to make it for sale to the whites. Some action by the Dominion Government is therefore rendered necessary.

With the single exception of the land difficulty peace and content, it reveals among the Indians of B. Columbia.

Dominion Appointments.

From 1st October, 1874, to 30th Sept., 1875.
(Compiled from Official Gazette.)

October 1st.—Major-General Edward Selby Smith to be Adjutant-General of Militia of Canada.

Patrick L. Foley, Esq., of New Brandon, N. B., to be Sub-collector in Customs.

Donald Campbell, Esq., of Boullardarie, N. B., to be do. do.

12.—Wm. Alfred Himsforth, Esq., Clerk of the Privy Council for Canada, and Edward Allan Meredith, Esq., Dy. of Min. of the Interior, to be Depts. for signing Money Warrants.

20.—Capt. Hardy John Canton Haty, 2nd East Norfolk Militia, to be Extra aide-de-camp from 12th Oct.

Nov. 4th.—Louis Bonaventure Caron, Esq., Adv. of Quebec, to be Puisné Judge of Superior Court of Q.

Wm. Bartlett, of Windsor, Ont., to be Landing Waiter and Searcher in Customs.

Jean Baptiste Bissonnette, of St. John's, Q., to be do. do. do.

Samuel Cochran Kerr, of Ottawa, Ont., to be do. do. and Locker in Do.

5th.—Hon. Wm. Ross, of St. Anne's, N. S., to be Collector in Customs.

Fred. T. Boardman, Esq., of Havelock, Q., to be Landing Waiter and Searcher in do.

George Aug. Bell, Esq., of Anderson, N. B., to be Sub-collector in do.

Fred. Wm. Brown, Esq., of Grand Falls, N. B., to be Sub-Collector in do.

Hugh Blackadar, Esq., of Halifax, N. S., to be Postmaster of Halifax.

Chas. S. Ketchum, Esq., of St. John, N. B., to be Warden of the Penitentiary at St. John.

12th.—Au. Brownson, Esq., of Dunville, Ont. to be a Collector in Customs.

17th.—Horatio Nelson Case, Esq., of Hamilton, Ont., to be Postmaster of Hamilton.

Dec. 12th.—Peter Hackey, of Bathurst, N. B., to be Harbour Master of that Port.

Irwin Whitley Binney, of Moncton, N. B., to be Landing Waiter and Searcher in Customs.

15th.—Wm. Merritt Shaw, of Port Credit, Ont., to be do. do. do.