

the Manitoba Indians to be taught farming. Some of the bands are making very marked progress. Several additional reserves were surveyed during the year. Several new schools were established and applications for several others have been sent in. There is a general desire among the Indians, not only that their children should be taught to read and write, but that they themselves may acquire the arts of the white man. The Indians in the Lake Manitoba agency are described by the agent as quiet and inoffensive, and very desirous of imitating the whites, anxious for the education of their children, and have a practical farmer established on each reserve to teach them farming. Their general health was good, and they were well satisfied with their position and treatment.

In the NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES, five schools have been established. In the spring of 1877, barley and seed potatoes were distributed to the tribes at Ellice, Qu'Appelle, Touchwood Hills, Pelly and Shoal River, and planted by the Indians. The crops turned out well. Some of the bands near Carleton and Prince Albert were supplied with seed grain and potatoes. These were very much encouraged with the result, and have broken up more new land. One band has over 100 acres under cultivation. The White-fish Lake Indians are the furthest advanced in civilization of any in the Territories. They raised, in 1877, enough grain and vegetables for their food. The total number of "Treaty" Indians in the North-West Territories is about 17,000, and in Manitoba over 10,000. The Sioux who have come over from the United States have not made as satisfactory progress as was expected, though they are generally more intelligent and industrious than the other Indian bands, and their presence is a source of anxiety. The Indians in the Athabaska district are estimated to number about 2,400, and those of Rupert's Land, 4,370.

Among BRITISH COLUMBIA Indians a much better feeling has sprung up, and peace and apparent contentment is found. There is a marked improvement in the conduct of the coast Indians, much due to the stringency of the Indian Liquor Act. In all the large British Columbia Superintendency only two murders were reported during 1877, and these were due to the influence of Indian liquor. New reserves were laid out in Lewis and Sechelt Inlets satisfactory to the Indians, and some desired plots of land added to the Conroy reserve. The Cowichan Bands number 83, are a most industrious and sturdy race, with quite a large area of land under cultivation, good fences, barns, stables, &c., and some 500 head of cattle. The Indians of British Columbia are generally shrewd, active and intelligent. Those of Fraser River are represented to be generally industrious and self-reliant. There is a perceptible improvement in their health and general condition. The Indians of the interior are a very active people, and great horsemen. The total number of British Columbia Indians is estimated at, in the Fraser River Superintendency, 15,000; Vancouver and the Coast, 20,000—35,000 souls. There are six schools with 492 pupils; but except at the Industrial Schools, it is very difficult to obtain the attendance of the children. The value of the furs, cranberries, and oil exported from British Columbia, in 1877 (almost entirely of Indian production), was \$334,712.

The total number of Indians in the Dominion in 1877 was estimated to be

Ontario	15,666
Quebec	10,917
New Brunswick	1,425
Nova Scotia	2,116
Prince Edward Island	296
Manitoba and N. W. T.	27,08
Athabaska	2,398
British Columbia	35,154
Rupert's Land	4,370
Total	99,650

Ordnance and Admiralty Lands.

Notwithstanding the presence of the hard times, the annual receipts from these Lands exceeded the usual average. The receipts for the fiscal year 1876-77 amounted to \$102,688, while the expenses were only \$4,347.50. Sales were made at Amherstburg, Montreal, Kingston, Sorel, Quebec and Ottawa to the amount of \$121,904, from which was realized \$69,241. It was not thought advisable to order more new sales, as the value would be likely to much increase. Many valuable military properties in Quebec and Ontario were, by an Act passed in the Session of 1877, vested in the Dominion Government. There are numerous lots in Toronto, Kingston and Prescott, as well as scattered through the country, where sales have been made and cancelled from default. These will now sell at advanced prices.

In Quebec there are lands still for sale, in Montreal, St John, South River, Blairfindie, Sorel and in Quebec City. The correspondence for the fiscal year covered 95 folios, 1,065 letters were received, and 668 sent. The arrears still increase. At the 31st June, 1877, there were due \$59,844 for rent and interest and unpaid instalments, and \$117,439 for purchase money not yet due. This sum, however, \$27,284 is so well secured that there is no risk of loss to the Dominion. Since 1856, \$1,42,331 have been paid over to the Consolidated Fund from these lands. The lands belonging to the late Bank of Upper Canada are under the management of this branch. No sales were made of these during the year, owing to the depression. The receipts from them amounted to \$13,048.50.