

1873 "Settlements are extending so rapidly, that trouble is almost unavoidable if they go alone, and the Pawnees and Otoes are not yet prepared to dispense with Buffalo hunts without a substitute in beef rations. This I hope Congress may grant in a future appropriation bill, but am not very confident of such a result. If a weekly beef ration could be substituted temporarily for the buffalo hunt, in the tribes now semi-annually leaving their Reservations for that purpose, there would be full opportunity, with the proceeds from the land about being sold to concentrate their energies upon the agricultural developments of their reserves.

The Sioux raids which have so much retarded the progress of the Pawnees, must soon be stopped by the white settlements now rapidly closing around the Reservation.

Agent William Burgess makes the following Report to Superintendent Barclay White, under date of 4th month, 22^d. 1873;

Respected Friend:-

"In response to thy letter of the 14th inst., I herewith present a statement of the number and condition of our schools. During the past winter there have been 47 pupils in the Pawnee Manual Labor School, boys and girls of various ages from five to seventeen years. Their course of study is spelling, reading, writing, object lessons, geography, history, and mental and practical arithmetic. The girls are instructed in sewing, knitting, and general house-work. The boys assist in the kitchen laundry, wood cutting, and out door work on the school farm, receiving instruction thereat. The day school, which has been in operation about eighteen months, numbers 32 pupils, but the average number during the winter has been 20; (at present the measles prevail, and regular attendance is interrupted.)

"The course of study in this school is spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and object lessons. The girls have also been taught to sew and knit. Two new school-houses are projected, and one of them is in course of erection.

"The teachers for these schools are employed in the Indian villages, giving instructions in the lodges, and ministering to their many needs. The progress of most of the pupils in the several schools has been as satisfactory as could be expected, from their surroundings and the facilities offered.

"While some are careless and indifferent to mental improvement, others are quite apt, and show a disposition to improve, adopt the habits and customs of civilized life, and provide for their wants both present and future.

In a letter received by our Secretary dated 10th month,

1873 13th 1873, Agent Burgess says:

The village matron, Sarah E. Wright, gives instruction to the village women in sewing, washing, baking and other household duties. A room has been fitted up adjoining the new school house where they come to visit her, and, in addition to the specific duties named, she often dispenses aid, comfort and advice to the poor, the sick, and afflicted.

"During the year various needed repairs have been made in the Agency buildings, and several improvements have been made in and around the Pawnee Manual Labor School building, having a bearing upon the comfort and conveniences of the cook and wash rooms, especially in procuring wood and a plentiful supply of water, now pumped by horse power into a large tank in the basement, from which it is easily drawn.

"With my concurrence, domestic fowls were introduced at the Manual Labor School by the teacher of labor, and the experiment has been quite successful.

"On the farm most things have worked to reasonable success and satisfaction. We harvested about 800 Bushels of wheat, and 312 Bushels of rye. The oats were somewhat damaged by grasshoppers, but thrashed out over 1100 Bushels.

"Owing to heavy spring rains, corn was late in planting and late in maturing, so that the crops are only moderate. Twenty acres of rye have again been sown to secure another chance for feed, if corn or oats should fail.

"Various improvements are contemplated, but it will require some time to bring all our plans to bear with the limited amount of means at command.

"The most friendly relations subsist between the Indians and myself, so far as I can perceive, and while there are frequent cases requiring advice, attention or correction in some form, they mostly obey positive orders, and give a friendly ear to counsel.

"The Commission for the appraisement of the Pawnee lands is now on duty, and I have to cross the river nearly every day to assist them on the field. The work is progressing fairly, but it may require several weeks to complete it.

I have nothing further of special ^{interest} requiring this Report to be lengthened, but in the great work, and responsibility before me, with earnest intentions to do the best I can, I hope to receive your friendly counsel from time to time, that my hands may be strengthened, and my

